

School-Community Network 2020.21

April 20, 2021

1. Stephanie Horak, SCN President, called the meeting to order @ 9:16 A.M.
2. WDMCS Online--Dr. Lisa Remy, Superintendent- Dr. Remy greeted the group and began by reflecting on what components of this school year the district may want to keep for next year. 26% of surveyed families were interested in an online school option going forward. WDMCS applied for a virtual school option on March 23rd and received approval in mid-April.
3. WDMCS Online--Laine Mendenhall-Buck, Director of School Community Relations
 - a. Enrollment communication for Online School will go live later this week and will be a fairly quick turnaround.
 - b. Website for the Online School was shared by Laine Mendenhall-Buck with parents for questions and feedback
 - c. Online school is its own school with its own reporting to the State
 - d. Students across the state could enroll through normal open-enrollment or tuition-in process.
 - e. Could be a waiting list.
 - f. PK-8th grade will be full online classes. 9th-12th could be fully online or also take some in person classes.
 - g. Goal is to provide a good starting point for online option for WDMCS
 - h. Enrollment process stays the same for online and in-person schools as a starting point.
 - i. Enrollment process for online has an additional form to complete that will be on the website.
 - j. Data will be collected for the state on why students are choosing to enroll in online school.
 - k. Will be reaching out to bilingual families and families who do not speak English at home. Language Liaisons will also be reaching out. The form will not be translated into multiple languages, so the Liaisons will help complete the enrollment form.
 - l. May 7 is the enrollment deadline
 - m. Teachers may have an online section and/or in person sections but not blended sections.
 - n. Need around 20 students to have a section K-8, at the high school level the number is around 15 depending on the course.
 - o. Questions were taken from the group

4. Social Emotional Learning (SEL)--Michelle Lettington, Associate Superintendent of TLS and Kandi Hensel, Director of Special Education
 - a. SEL is an area that we really focused on as a district during COVID
 - b. Work focused on Iowa's SEL Competencies PreK-12
 - c. CASEL (Collaborative, for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning) organization that was used to develop the state's competencies
 - d. SEL Team (2019-Present)--has been meeting routinely on shared learning, developing WDMCS shared vision, unpacking SEL standards, and developing next steps of implementation for all schools
 - e. Example of an SEL Competency (Self Awareness) was shared
 - f. Connections to Portrait of a Graduate and Essential Life Skills
 - g. Strength-Based Survey and Resources will be used to support students
 - h. SEL Competencies work is for all teachers and staff and should be embedded into classrooms and buildings.
 - i. Questions were asked. Mitch Kuhnert, VSW principal, shared how VSW and VHS were doing SEL work.
5. Administrator Hiring Updates--Dr. Carol Seid, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources
 - a. Dr. Remy, Superintendent, reviewed the process for hiring a principal
 - b. Crossroads Park Elementary--Tricia Kurtt will take on the Crossroads Park Elementary principal role. Kurtt is currently an associate principal at Jackson Elementary within the Des Moines Public Schools District.
 - c. Jordan Creek Elementary-- Current Jordan Creek/Westridge Assistant Principal Annie Orsini will take on the Jordan Creek principal role.
6. Open Forum with Dr. Remy, Superintendent
 - a. Question about the 7th and 8th Health classes at the junior high. Questions around the Reproductive Systems Unit and if students missed it during the pandemic.
 - b. Thanks to all of the families for working with schools to complete ISASP testing on site.
 - c. District only distributes activities and non-profit flyer information electronically. One year trial of Peachjar.com This distribution was on Virtual Backpack in the past and it took a lot of time to do.
 - d. Where is Valley Vibes? Communicated to PTO. Communication to Valley families will come through Blackboard and into the app. Trying to resolve the Valley Vibes technology issues and if we cannot will communicate another way to do this.

- e. Letterman Creative to disburse PTO funds from mask sales. Funds will go to the parent groups directly. May need to pick them up at the LRC or distribute to the mailbox for each PTO in each building
 - f. Due to COVID the district is still not allowing volunteers into buildings.
7. Positive Stories from the School Year were shared
 8. Adjournment at 11:15