

School-Community Network 2020.21

February 16, 2021

- I. Stephanie Horak called the meeting to order @ 9:15 A.M.
- II. Long Range Planning Committee Budget Packages Presentation--Dr. Lisa Remy, Superintendent
 - A. Long Range Planning Process-What, Why, How
 1. Reviewed overview of the funds that make up the WDMCS budget.
 - a) Ten funds in total but we are focusing on the General Fund.
 - b) Reviewed ten year history of the General Fund--Deficit spending for last three years
 - c) Declining Enrollment from last year
 - d) Official vs Served Student Enrollment--We are serving more students than our official count (which means students enrolled after the official count date in Oct)
 - e) Lack of Adequate State Supplemental Aid and Allowable Growth from the State @2%
 - f) WDM has the lowest property tax rate in the metro, and raising taxes is not an option.
 - g) Reviewed the Budget Planning Processes used around the state and chose one to use
 - (1) Determined the line of how much needed reduced (2.5 to 3.5 million)
 - (2) Superintendency developed packages and additional options by
 - (a) Reviewing what was required and what was optional
 - (b) Establishing max class size
 - (c) Determining what was needed to maintain buildings and grounds
 - (d) Reviewing Categorical expenditures to see if they were operating within budget
 - (e) Adding additional packages options
 - h) Long Range Planning Committee was formed and created a final list of priorities to the Board for March 8
 - (1) Superintendency started with four packages for the LRP Committee to review
 - (2) Committee edited packages
 - (3) Committee narrowed to three packages to present to the Board

- B. Budget Reduction Packages
 - 1. Each line item on the packages was given a description and what happens if that line item were to be eliminated.
 - 2. Items in the packages were organized by area--building level, grounds, district level, etc.
 - 3. All Items in the packages were reviewed and explained.
- C. Access to Survey
 - 1. Packages will be posted on the WDMCS Website
 - 2. Community will select one of the packages
 - 3. Then, Community will have an opportunity to give feedback.
 - 4. Board Workshop to review this feedback
 - 5. Superintendency will review feedback from community and Board to recommend a package on March 8
- III. Open Forum--Dr. Lisa Remy, Superintendent
 - A. Open Forum related to budget reductions
 - 1. Question about positions moving around based on attrition and staff not being eliminated out of job
 - 2. Question about funding being cut from extra-curricular activities--these would be positions and not a program
 - 3. Question about GT reductions. 2 FTE over what can be funded by categorical funding for these positions. Questions about what this reduction may look like.
 - 4. Question about Intercultural Outreach Coordinator and the loss that will be felt at buildings and concerns about the increase in refugees that will be coming and support for ESOL students and any others from multiple cultures. Several gave feedback on this.
 - 5. Comments were heard advocating for retaining certain line items
 - B. Open Forum on any topic
 - 1. Lisa shared result of Virtual School interest survey. 2,477 families responded with 26% of them indicating interest in having Virtual School as a choice. There was interest at all grade levels from PreK to 12th, but the 9th-12th had a higher percentage of interest. More to come.
 - 2. Asked to share feedback on the Snow Day Schedule. Only allowed this school year. Dr. Remy shared some staff and parent feedback.
- IV. New WDMCS + School Websites (Sneak Peak)--Laine Mendenhall-Buck, Director of School/Community Relations
 - A. New WDMCS website pages were shared
 - 1. Main Website with links to Covide updates, District, Enrollment, Academics, Departments, Board, Athletics, and "I Want To..." along

with Our District, Our Schools, Get in Touch, Employment Options, Search, and Translate.

2. Quick links for parents, students, and staff
3. School Websites--Covid updates, About Us, Staff Directory, Parent Resources, Student Resources, "I Want To..."and Quick Links
4. Connections to Social Media Icons
5. Feedback
 - a) Wonder if parent groups could help with review of websites
 - b) Wonder if it could be easier to find and pay fees

V. Positive Stories from the School Year

- A. Record number of National Merit Scholars
- B. Two Coca-Cola Scholars
- C. Dr. Ferguson additions to equity and inclusion along with Black History Month and other information shared throughout the school year.
- D. Software being used to sell tickets and to view co-curricular activities.

VI. Adjourn--(10:58 A.M.); Next Meeting April 18, 2021 @ 9:15 A.M.