

Returning and Learning Subcommittee Meeting

June 8, 2021

Call to order: 8:13am

Attendees: Teresa, Mike, Lauren, Linda

Approval of 5/11/2021 Minutes

New Business

- Update on in-person learning. We are in the “gray” in terms of color coding (meaning very few cases of COVID). Things are positive in terms of moving to full in-person learning. Challenges have been typical discipline issues and social-emotional issues. This has been keeping the administrators busy. They are also finishing up educator evals. Administrator reports have been positive. In person going as well as it can be, and it feels like normal end of the year.
- Plans for 2021-22 school year. The Commissioner stated that next year needs to be 5 days a week, in person, with no remote option. The plan is to bring furniture back. Masks may be required in the elementary schools, but not 100% certain at this point. The hope is that programming will be close to normal. There is currently no plan for social distancing. Guidelines haven’t been clear on lunches for social distancing.
- Summer planning. Summer institutes – teachers are working on various curricular projects. Some training and some creating a curricular product. Have as many proposals as any other year. Will use technology to have some activities done on site and some on virtual teams. Will see how that goes. At the high school, there is a writing program, with a theme of adjusting pacing. Some summer institutes have to do with equity/inclusion. At Robinson, they will be talking about google slide shows with links to materials around understanding different cultures. There will be a book club on “It’s ok to say ‘they.’” They are reviewing CASEL standards. And they are working on restorative practices. AP History teachers will be incorporating material from STAMPED. High school English will be working on how to approach discussions around race and diversity. HS/MS guidance will be discussing increased social-emotional needs. They will be developing a resource book for teachers and presentation for opening days of the school year. In math, they will be incorporating standards that were not covered in depth. Roland Green will be supporting diverse learning. They will be reestablishing a PBIS team and reviewing rubrics to evaluate the Journeys program.
 - Summer school: Through assessments, they have identified students for summer school. Still need to hire an ELA teacher. Qualification rubric is used. Two sessions a day. Looking into whether they need any counselor support. Some students may need extra outreach to stay engaged (phone call, or other outreach). 60 is the usual enrollment, but this summer may be more than usual. Parents are calling for extra supports in math. Won’t catch every student.
 - Elementary/MS: on track with getting programs organized. Most teachers have been hired.
 - Lessons and leadership learned during the pandemic. Reflecting is really hard right now. Summer will be a great time for that.
 - When presenting the impact on learning on the school committee meeting on the 15th, there will be a slide that gives a snippet on content analysis for each school. One slide for each school.

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- Using the terminology “impact on learning” vs. learning loss since students did have gains over the year.
- The state is promoting a program called “acceleration learning” through TNTP.
- Future of this subcommittee. As of now, we will plan to meet at the beginning of the school year and then assess whether it will be needed for the rest of the school year.

Other - Any items not anticipated by the Chairperson 48 Hours prior to this meeting.