

## **School Council Meeting February 4, 2021**

Meeting started at 4:15 pm

### 1) Introductions

### 2) School Improvement Plan development

- The school is considering preparing summer programs for academic remediation; students need to have essential skills, but this would not be intended to make up for all work lost.
- Joanne said she would send her kids to summer sessions.
- Angie reiterated that if the school is going to put out the money for these programs, a good-sized turnout would be desired.
- The sessions would be relatively short; no one expects children to stay in school for long hours during the summer.
- Afterschool tutoring is also available now, and could continue. There haven't been a lot of students taking advantage of it this year; possibly because parents feel their kids have had enough screen time for the day.
- There are going to be learning gaps, but that's going to be true of most schools, and will be more specific to specific kids.

### 3) Technology

- The rollout of laptops at the beginning of the year was slow through no one's fault, due to high demand around the country.
- Krista said it would be beneficial for all students to use school-issued laptops so they can be serviced or replaced when there are problems.
- The school is looking into things like buying ebooks, which would need school-supplied laptops to use.
- Family training on laptops and all their uses for students is something that we need to work on.
- Mary said that Google Classroom and other everyday things used with remote learning are frustrating for parents because they often don't know how to use them themselves and can't help their children.
- These kinds of problems won't go away in future since colleges will be using online learning as well.

- Social emotional needs also need to be addressed due to isolation of students from their peers and social situations.
- There are benefits to remote learning; sick kids can still participate if they're up for it, and students with social/emotional issues can use it in ways they may not be comfortable with in person.
- Joe said he would like to see expansion of the programs on responsible internet use that are being employed at the high school; the students like them and it's important for them to learn responsibility online.
- Joanne would like to see some kind of login tracking so that parents can know when students are skipping classes.
- Krista said there is currently an attendance tracker available for teachers, but not for parents.
- Joe would like to see this technology expanded so students can be tracked more accurately for both teachers and parents.
- Google has come a long way during this situation, but there are still things the school community would like to see put into place.
- Joanne wanted to know if it's possible for a student to go back into a Google classroom that they missed or that was interrupted to see the lesson again by recording the classes or livestreaming. Angie noted that the students can't be recorded since there is a privacy issue with that.

#### 4) Exhibitions of Mastery

- Parents would like to have a really clear explanation to help them orient to how EOM's are done. There has not been progress in this area because in this kind of environment, the EOM process has had to be altered. Meetings with families could be helpful.
- Natacha pointed out that presentations weren't done this year but it's important for them to learn. This should be a priority next year. Natacha thought the students did well with the limitations they've had, but she likes the idea of the students learning to do presentations. She considers this an excellent skill for them to learn, as she's found through her own experience.
- Angie agreed and said that EOM's are one the biggest things alumni come back and say they're pleased about because it gives them confidence in college that their peers often don't have.
- Alisha would like to see parents getting more of a heads-up about upcoming EOM's. Angie asked how she would like that to look. Alisha said she'd like to see emails with explanations, instructions and examples as well as reminders of upcoming dates so parents can help their children better prepare.

- Angie said that should be a doable goal since it's understood that families help the students with their EOM's. She also said that it's important to note that EOM's look different on different levels.
- Natacha agreed that this year was very different because there was little contact with parents about the expectations of doing EOM's

#### 5) AP courses

- This year's AP courses were expanded to include ELA 10. The content is strong and the school would like to expand into grade 11. They have currently chosen not to do AP History as the content was not suitable, but Angie will ask Achille if we can do AP Geometry. The needs of AP courses would require changes to current coursework.

The next School Council meeting is Thursday, March 4. For homework, please look at SIP Goals 2 (communication) and 3 (fostering safety, relationship building, etc.) both of which have been challenging during Covid.

Angie attached two documents to the agenda which she would like the Council members to look over. She would like them to make comments prior to the next meeting.

Meeting ended at 5:05 pm

#### Attending:

Angie Pepin

Krista Cafourek

Mary Carter

Faith Oji

Joanne Della Barba

Cynthia Lyons

Carla Lopez-Codio

Natacha Julien

Joe Kay

Alisha Uhlenbrock