

**Meeting:** Family Advisory Council

**Date:** February 2, 2020

**Time:** 7:00pm

**Location:** Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

**Attendees:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Amy Traynor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dang Yang	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Schmitz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melissa Sterling	<input type="checkbox"/> Stephanie Yang
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Westom	<input type="checkbox"/> Darren Hollenbeck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenna Murphy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Johnson	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Giffey
<input type="checkbox"/> Anne Hartman	<input type="checkbox"/> Emily Kuhn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julia Johnson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Tvaruzka	<input type="checkbox"/> Trace Mueller
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/> Emily Willems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kaying Xiong	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicole Faude	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sara Johnson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brook Berg	<input type="checkbox"/> Erica Christensen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly Hendrickson	<input type="checkbox"/> Pa Thao	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Schmitt
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brooke Cairns	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gail Hanson Brenner	<input type="checkbox"/> Kristine Casto	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rob Geske	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leslie Gorman
<input type="checkbox"/> Caitlin Lee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Market-Sullivan	<input type="checkbox"/> Lucie McGee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shana Schmidt	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Carl Bacon	<input type="checkbox"/> Holli Jacobson	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark Goings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shannyn Pinkert	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christine Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> James Peng	<input type="checkbox"/> Megan Holmen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stephanie Bautch	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Guests:** Dave Oldenberg, Kurt Madsen, Kim Koller

**Notes:** Sara Johnson

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

**1. News from the schools**

- a. **North HS Booster Club has their Silent Auction started yesterday and goes through the 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**2. Calendar Recap: Kay Marks and Jim Schmitt**

- a. 6 slides long
- b. Different groups spoken to
- c. 1 on 1 parents (e.g. English learner families) gave same feedback as FAC members
- d. 189 teacher contract days
- e. 170 school student instructional days
- f. Exceeds state-required instructional minutes
- g. 9 professional development/instructional planning days (4 prior to school start and 5 embedded in the school year)
- h. 4 teacher workdays
- i. Elementary moves to a semester grading period
- j. Minimized number of different breaks
- k. Inclement weather days will be virtual days
  - i. Want to balance all the needs that students/families have
  - ii. This calendar builds-in 4 days automatically
  - iii. If we need an additional day, we will take the professional development day in April.
  - iv. Committee Input regarding considerations when decision is being made:
    1. Brooke Berg – Ask to consider the amount of instruction that would actually take place on those snow days, especially taking into consideration this year. Also, looking at virtual learning after a certain # of snows days used. Asked about the change to conference dates: slid March 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> up one week.

2. Heather Market-Sullivan – Listened to school board meeting last night and was impressed with the questions that were asked by the board and the considerations they made regarding parents and students. Could we use up the built-in snow days as “true” snow days, and then reevaluate virtual days since there hasn’t been many times more have been used. Also, having thought in place in case students kept iPads at school for the next day and there ended up being a snow day the next day.
3. Rob Geske – Treating this year differently at the elementary and middle school level, and maybe treat the snow days differently at the elementary school, middle, and HS levels as well?
4. Jenna Murphy – Reiterated the concern about students leaving their devices at school and then a snow day happens.
5. Amy Weston – will the devices be an ongoing thing or just for this year? Current plan is for kids to keep over the Summer. 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> would turn in iPad for laptop.

### 3. Graduation Input: Dr. Kaying Xiong, Kurt Madsen, & Dave Oldenberg

- a. Dave: Memorial
  - i. Adhoc advisory graduation committee
  - ii. Committed to something that looks like a graduation (caps, gowns, photo ops)
  - iii. Reserved Carson Park (as of today) with the understanding you can have 250 people, but the concern is weather.
  - iv. 100 people inside, Zorn not available.
  - v. Providing streaming opportunities.
  - vi. Some thought to invite guests into the building and watch the streaming.
  - vii. Could look into doing “celebration” after on the grounds but utilizing safety measures.
  - viii. What are some unattended positives that can be done?
- b. Kurt: North
  - i. Focusing on the mathematics and how many people the gym can hold.
  - ii. Looking at the amount of people needed to give seniors the day they deserve, while using social distancing and keeping the experience true (example: band needs 35 people)
  - iii. Good outcome of the drive-through graduation and got good feedback.
  - iv. Want to keep the experience positive.
  - v. Would keep an outdoor ceremony on their grounds if this is the route taken.
- c. Committee input regarding graduation:
  - i. **Christine Brown:** Memorial has 375 seniors; how many does North have? 311. A committee of parents will be meeting with Dave and Kurt separately, and have heard of parents outside that group that students are into making connections with others outside of their current cohorts.
  - ii. **Jenna Murphy:** Senior at Memorial and his only feedback was “as long as it is something in person.” What if we had numerous graduation ceremonies like they do in college? Could have band play and record the performance and play at each ceremony. (Kurt: looking at what time that take to set something up like that.)
  - iii. **Via Chat: Shannyn Pinkert:** I think parents just really want to see their kids graduate in person...so moving it to a Saturday (even Memorial Day weekend) won’t be as big of a deal if you give them enough time to plan.
  - iv. **Anne Hartman:** Had a student graduate last year and wanted to say the school district did a wonderful job with making it a great experience compared to her daughters from 3 years ago. The diplomas and grad party prizes/gifts weren’t given out until August, and graduates thought it was too late to go get it because they were moving on to college. Keep everything together.

Also talked to parents who have Seniors this year and they have said they just want something that is celebrated and more personal.

#### 4. Superintendent's Update: Michael Johnson

- a. Comments regarding the calendar were very helpful.
- b. Doing school visits. Went into Mr. Carpenters room and it was really fun to watch the kids, and the teaching that was being done.
  - i. Like #1: the kids don't look too much at the principal, so it seems as though the principals are visible.
  - ii. Like #2: impressed with the topics being taught/watching teachers engage students.
- c. Appreciate our staff allowing extra time/arrangements for assessments to be completed.
- d. Learning is the constant and time is the variable.
- e. Admins very busy at this time with registration and planning for next year. Expecting 5-days a week next year, but contingency plans will be made.
- f. Equity Statement: will get this out in March and get feedback from staff at that time.
- g. Mask mandate: wanted to let us know there isn't any plans to change the mask mandate at this time and will be following CDC guidelines. Have seen a lot of support around the mandate.
- h. Covid: small group meetings with principals and excited to get 1A employees their first dose of the vaccine, completed on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Were anticipating starting 1B employees sooner, but due to the delay that has changed.
  - i. Kim: 1,220ish staff in 1B and do not anticipate having them able to get vaccinated the same day. Conversations have been going on to see how those would be deployed.
- i. Work has been being done regarding reopening.
  - i. In early October, when plan was shared, it would take board action, which is still the case.
  - ii. Engaging with leaders and executive team to discuss reopening. Currently in the planning stage. Consulting with other schools in the county, region, as well as staff.
  - iii. Meeting with Eau Claire Teachers Association group tomorrow. (shared what he discusses with them):
    - 1. Talked about present statistics: currently ECASD is doing really well compared to what the numbers were in October 2020. Staff and student quarantine rates look good. City/County numbers have also been dropping.
    - 2. What is the data you wish you had, but you don't know?
    - 3. Date of return? When would that make sense? Based on vaccine or likelihood to get one?
    - 4. What are 3 things that have to occur in your school/department?
    - 5. What are the 3 barriers you have?
    - 6. At which point would it be too late?
- iv. **ASK:** What input/question would you like to share? What would be a good survey question?
  - 1. **Shannyn Pinker:** At this point, I would like to just finish the year as is. The kids are in routine and we finally feel like we have a grip on things. Believe me, I am super excited to have them return full time in the Fall.
  - 2. **Rob Geske:** Based on vaccines, could we coordinate our efforts to perhaps look at what schools are closer to reopening, and having their staff get vaccinated first? Also, open a pilot school with teachers who have been vaccinated, then make decisions on up?
    - a. **Michael Johnson:** the people who are 1B who have health conditions, are they able to get prioritized? Kaying did confirm this, as well as wanted to make sure a whole building of staff isn't vaccinated at once due to possible side-effects.

- 3. **Kurt:**
  - a. Concerned about variables like: Proctors for tests, vaccination dates for when staff is off, so many variables, nice to see other perspectives and to be in the same room together.
  - b. What about 3-foot and difficulty of contact tracing, not to mention having to have full classes quarantine. Could be very confusing and challenging.
- 4. **Anne:** Kudos to principals of the schools. Think ECASD is doing a phenomenal job
- v. **ASK from Mike:** would like to get about half of our FAC committee together to do a small meeting and get feedback. Mike will put out a couple available dates/times to share with the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 7:00pm