



# MINUTES/NOTES

**Meeting:** Family Advisory Council

**Date:** 3/7/2023

**Time:** 7:00pm

**Location:** 500 Main Street, Eau Claire WI 54701 – Conference Room 123B

## News From Schools

- Discussed policies around therapy dogs, as the DeLong therapy dog has been removed from the school.
- Upcoming state PTA meeting. We could use representation from EC if your school is a PTA and has an interest, please contact Erica Christenson.
- The EC Chamber of Commerce is looking for businesses to provide tours for our middle school youth. Please pass on to your school to engage any interest from parents who have employers who would be interested in hosting the students for a 45-minute, hands-on tour.
- Montessori reported having a successful garage sale to raise funds. In addition, they recently sent out a parent survey, including questions about virtual learning on snow days.
- Discussed the charter schools, including potential opportunities for teachers to get priority requests during open enrollment to have their child attend the school they teach at. This is a current policy at Montessori, but nowhere else.

## Restroom Issues/Absence Letters: Follow up discussion from previous FAC meetings

- Explanation was given by Superintendent Johnson regarding the concerns around bathroom closures due to vaping, vandalism, and other safety issues. The committee reiterated the need for more family communication when issues like this arise in schools so that they can address it at home and with their circle of influence.
- Discussion regarding the language used and the policies around being absent for more than 10 days. Points were conveyed about the impact of this on underserved and minority families.

## Teaching & Learning: Summer School

- Mandy VanVleet walked the FAC committee through the summer school offerings for 2023.
- One change from previous years is that some elementary schools that have traditionally held summer school in August have now been moved to July. This change will help staff better prepare for the school year in August.
- Registration opens 3/11/23 and will be open for about a month. Many resources will be available to help assist families in registering, especially on the morning of 3/11/23.
- A printed version of the guide was not printed and sent home to all families this year. If families need a hard copy, they can contact the board office or their school.

# MINUTES/NOTES

## Safety & Security: "I Love You Guys"

- Kim Koller discussed the new, evidence-based crisis response curriculum that will be rolled out in the district. The curriculum focuses on the following 5 components: Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter. In the past, students have been trained for an incident. Rather than training episodically, this curriculum will help teachers and students practice actions through regular trainings and practice.

## Human Resources Updates

- February-April is a big push for hiring for the following year. There have been several FTE support positions added for the upcoming school year, and 21 retirements (the average year has 30-35 retirements). Adam Keeton will move from Manz principal to Northstar principal.

## Superintendent Updates

- Discussed building and grounds updates related to the referendum, including the following: classroom additions to Putnam Heights and North (ready by fall '24), South updates to be phased for the next 2 years, Memorial auditorium work beginning in 2024, along with other smaller ongoing projects.
- Mr. Johnson provided updates and an opportunity for discussion on the following: Staffing, Budgeting, Legislative Outreach, Referendum work (now and in the future), Planning for 2023-2024, and snow days/virtual learning.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40pm

Respectfully submitted by Brook Berg