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Meeting: Family Advisory Council (FAC)

Date: 4/11/2023

Time: 7:00pm

Location: 500 Main Street, Eau Claire WI 54701 – Board Room 137

Members present (X):

Sam Davey: Erica Christiansen OPEN	Flynn: OPEN OPEN	Lakeshore: Holli Jacobson OPEN	Locust Lane: Brooke Cairns OPEN	Longfellow: Michelle Miland (X) Katie Sideri	Manz: OPEN OPEN
Meadowview: OPEN OPEN	Northwoods: Leslie Gorman (X) Nicole Prock	Putnam Heights: Tom Giffey (X) Jamie Kampf	Robbins: Nicole Cook OPEN	Roosevelt: Shana Schmidt (X) Lyndsay Simmons	Sherman: (X) Julia Johnson OPEN
DeLong: (X) Shannyn Pinkert (X) Scott Zielski OPEN	Northstar: Brook Berg (X) Rob Geske Jessica Schinke	South: Audrey Andrews Linda Carlson OPEN	Memorial: Gail Hanson Brenner (X) Jenna Murphy Lucinda Kemmet OPEN	North: (X) Nicole Everson (X) Rob Geske (X) Shannyn Pinkert (X) Joy Weisner	ECVS: (X) Jason Schmitz OPEN
McKinley Charter: OPEN OPEN	Montessori Charter: (X) Anna Foiles (X) Juergen Schaupp	Special Education PTO: (X) Nicole Brynelsen Kelly Hendrickson	Hmong PTA: Caitlin Lee Dang Yang	District Administrator: (X) Michael Johnson	Teacher Rep: Mark Goings

Guests present: Kim Koller

Meeting started at approximately 7:05 p.m.

I. News From Our Schools

- a. Delong – Working on getting Callee the dog back in school; fun on ski trips; continued struggle with traffic, congestion, and inconsiderate drivers during morning drop off (contacting the school SRO to help implement traffic solutions was suggested).
- b. Roosevelt – Completed Phase 1 Fundraising for their new playground equipment; already working on Phase 2.
- c. Sherman – Forward Exams; planning for teacher appreciation week.
- d. General – There was a brief discussion on ideas to increase PTA meeting attendance; one suggestion that has worked is to offer childcare; childcare assistance contact information will be shared with FAC members; further discussion about the overall lack of family involvement with school parent organizations including difficulties filling positions and finding volunteers.
- e. Mike announced he will be attending the next Montessori board meeting to go over the new contract; he is also checking into the South dog program to see how Delong can get Callee back at school.
- f. Kim offered a brief overview of the work of the Demo & Trends Committee and offered to provide a Demo & Trends update at our next meeting if we would like.

II. High School 101

- a. Before Mike and Kim began their presentation, Rob provided index cards to all FAC members present to allow them to make notes during the presentation or provide (anonymously, if desired) any questions they wanted Mike and Kim to answer. Rob also asked members to rate the value they received from the

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meeting in the bottom corner of the card on a scale from 1-10, with 1 being Not Very Valuable and 10 being Very Valuable. (Completed cards were provided to Mike and Kim under separate cover).

- b. Overview of Memorial High School and North High School.
 - i. Year built, square footage, number of students, number of staff, number of activities/clubs, current attendance rate, and graduation rate.
 - ii. Principals are the academic leaders of the school.
 - iii. Students involved in activities, clubs, sports have fewer office referrals and achieve better academic results (better grades).
 - iv. Post-covid focus in kids is changing away from a connection with school; rebuilding that strong connection and identity as a “Polar” or “Husky.”
 - v. Covid also created an environment of kids staying away from school; community resources are not available to handle the fallout of such things as current truancy issues.
- c. Our Common Goal – Graduation! (getting to 23.5 CR) and having graduates that serve the community well.
- d. ECASD Graduation Requirements.
 - i. Academic Supports (6-year graduation window with focus on 4-year norm).
 1. Focus on classroom experience to help kids reach 23.5 – should reach about 80% of our kids (1200-1300 kids at each school) through Curriculum, Collaboration, Differentiation, and Family Connections.
 2. Provide additional layers of support – Husky Time/Extended Learning Time, Retake Policy, Learning Center, IEP’s, Credit Attainment.
 - a. Scenario: Discussed what supports are available to kids regardless of their situation to keep the focus on getting kids to 23.5.
Possible Next Steps – Summer School, GCAP, Reduced Credit. Diploma, Alternate Credits, Competency Program (McKinley).
 - ii. Social and Emotional Support.
 1. Overview – process to acquire and apply knowledge, attitudes, and skills to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve goals, feel and show empathy, establish and maintain positive relations, and make responsible decisions.
 2. Supporting All Students in All Classrooms.
 - a. Explicit Expectations (SOAR Matrices) (Kim was going to investigate why MHS has its SOAR Matrix available on its website, but NHS did not have a similar informational page on its website).
 - b. S&E Curriculum.
 - c. Goal Setting.
 - d. Family Engagement.
 - e. Community Building (schools as micro-communities/small “towns”).
 3. Supporting S&E Learning for All Students.
 - a. Success Coaches.
 - b. School Counselors.
 - c. School Based Mental Health.

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- d. Individualized Supports (SE and 504s).
- e. Family and Community Partnerships.
- e. Scenarios – after covering the expectations, goals, and supports FAC members were presented with the first Scenario that involved a hypothetical vaping incident. The North FAC members spent time providing other FAC members with a foundation of the issues that are happening at North. North FAC members now meet monthly at North with Principal Madsen to discuss issues facing the school. Topics have included: bathroom issues, cell phone use/social media, vaping, dress code, and fighting as well as the amount of time all of these issues are taking from administrators' days and away from being able to celebrate the successes and achievements of the kids coming to school ready to learn and behaving positively. In preparing to provide this High School 101 presentation, the North FAC members especially wanted to learn more about and shed light on the issues facing North that are having a negative impact on school and student life and taking away positive focus from the kids who are coming to school ready to learn and behaving positively.
 - i. Discussion included (and was extended for those able to stay past the planned 8:30 p.m. meeting end time): vaping restorative justice flow chart; amount of time it takes administrators to handle negative behavior instances; making sure we're celebrating the great things our students are achieving and accomplishing; consequences; effectiveness of consequences; family support at home including understanding the issues, buy-in, and accountability; kids afraid to use the bathrooms; bathrooms being locked; fight clubs; lack of PTA/PTO at high schools and the de-centralized, compartmentalized nature of high school organization make-up; potential need for District steering committee for high schools and/or steering committee at each high school made up of administrator(s), families, teacher(s), staff, students; lack of student government (as student council, at least at North, is more of a volunteer-based, service organization) to get student representation, voices heard, student buy-in and support to effectuate change; "Does the School Board even know that these issues are happening?"; student-led campaigns against negative behaviors; finding influential students to help educate others on the dangers/negative fallout of negative behaviors; organizations such as DARE, pledge-based organizations to agree not to engage in negative behaviors; need for greater transparency and communication to families ("black hole" analogy compared to elementary and middle school); FAC members being approached by high school families for myriad of concerns; students not feeling safe to be at school; adequate supports, resources, and staffing for schools and staff to handle negative behaviors; support up the chain of command so every level of staff/teacher/admin feels like someone has their back; brainstorming and out-of-the-box thinking to solve these pervasive issues (e.g., "smokers' corner"); members wanted data to compare the incident rates at NHS vs. MHS; need to consider and examine the effect the boundary lines as currently drawn had causally on the issues that are happening, especially at North; understanding the stressors being created at North by operating at capacity and how that may be contributing to the negative issues; examining the interconnectedness of cell phones/social media, vaping, dress code, fighting, and bathroom issues as they relate to expectations, rules, the current consequence system, and the overall effectiveness of



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all of these things combined to work on holistic as well as individualized solutions.

III. Superintendent's Update (not discussed due to running over time)

Meeting ended at approximately 9:40 p.m.

Potential future Agenda Item(s):

Continuing discussion from this meeting; Demo & Trends Overview/Update; Re-take Policy

Respectfully submitted: Rob Geske, FAC Secretary

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