

7/14/20 Elementary Planning Committee Meeting

Our Mission: To create three learning plans to submit to DESE for the 2020-2021 school year.

- In-person learning w/ new safety requirements
- Hybrid Model
- Fully Remote Learning

The Elementary Committee will focus on Elementary operations, teaching and learning, student supports, professional development needs for staff

Members:

Administration: M. Coburn, D. Rehor, D. Leblanc

Teachers: K. Smith (K) D. Bashista (K) C. Moriarty (1) A. Dalton (2) M. McCaul (3) J. Bak (3) D.

Murray (5) J. Hough (6) M. Collins (6) D. Dostal (specials)

Sped: R. Harper, C. Servaes

Secretary: J. Fairman

School Committee: L. Papillon

July 14th Meeting Agenda will focus on the Hybrid Model:

- **General Update from Principal Coburn:**

- Parent survey results - 351 responses, 30% indicating that they will transport their own kids, 17% interested in enrolling in Gateway's online school for the year. Lot's of positive comments about the use of daily Google Meets being the most helpful/positive aspect of the spring shutdown. Parents looking for a more rigorous schedule and workload. District will be sending another survey closer to the start of school as people may change their minds, etc...
- Commissioner approved 3 days of professional development to be added to the beginning of the year that will be counted towards the 180 school days. The district will use this to focus on the flipped classroom model, Google classroom and a recording platform for lessons.
- To accommodate the K-2 1:1 Chromebook initiative, the district ordered 130 new devices that are on backorder until mid-September. Kindergarten will get touch screen devices. We are also looking at a program called Clever which would allow for a single sign-on to all platforms. District is also looking at survey data to determine the number of Hotspots necessary and grants to fund that initiative.

MEETING MINUTES:

- Hough question: How do we manage the students in 6th grade who opt to stay home? If there are 12 students how will they be divided among the classes, e.g. 3, 3, 3 and 3? If all the kids were attached to one classroom then they would only get one streamed lesson (If lessons are streamed) instead of a repeat of the same lessons from different teachers.
- Looking into the program "Clever" for easy access to websites used so that students only have to log in once to Google Classroom and can access all the platforms that teachers/grade levels use.

- Megan began discussion of Hybrid model daily hours and thoughts around the different scenarios of what could impact the start and end times of the day. Transportation needs/guidelines could also impact daily start and end times.
- Hybrid Model: Cohort numbers will be impacted by the number of students who will be staying home for virtual learning. If we were in a hybrid model, would people at home who opted for virtual learning only, would those families decide to send their students to school?
- Use of the Flipped Classroom will be critical in the Hybrid Model. It will be critical for our K and 1 students to learn how to use the technology while in school in the event that we have to move to full remote learning.
- Papillon: Will there be an option for students learning at home to be brought to the school for speech and OT services? Megan: If parents are willing to transport, I don't see why not.
- Hough: Can we add "Can you pick up materials for your students?" to a parent questionnaire? Would parents be willing to come by the school to connect with a teacher and pick up materials for their student? There was some difficulty trying to change materials into PDF form to share with all students.
- Remote learning has to be flexible enough to meet the needs of all students in order to support any students who may need to stay home due to quarantine or illness.
- If the Hybrid model rotates on a daily schedule Cohort A Tues/Wed, Cohort B Thur/Fri, we would look at alternating Mondays by cohort. A schedule would need to be created and sent out to families. Families will be surveyed again in August to gather more accurate information.
- Collins: What about a K-6 cohort and a 7-12 cohort? Megan: Social distancing is an issue that way because all your students would be in-person at the same time. Deanna: Many families have their older children watch their younger siblings.
- Fairman: How will Pre-K teachers sanitize their classrooms between sessions if they only have an hour? Megan: Pre-K will have fewer students, there has been some discussion about changing how sensory activities are presented, para in classroom to assist.
- Megan will need to find out what the length of the hybrid day will be.
- Dostal: Concerned about the idea of no specials for Kindergarten. If specials are online for all of the kids, can there be a specials' 'check-in' time in order to answer student's questions? Megan: There is a struggle with scheduling PE in elementary with the addition of 6th grade, additional K/1 classrooms and meeting contractual prep minutes. Kindergarten is the one place where there is some flexibility.
- Dalton: Will there be wrap-around services? Megan: The program is so large that the students would have to be spread out into different spaces and there would need to be cleaning of those spaces after the students left. Papillon: Wrap-around also doesn't follow along with the guidelines around keeping groups of students separate.

- Hough: Will the district be flexible with teachers? Will we still be meeting for staff meetings? Megan: Maintaining distance is just as important for the adults as it is for the students. Online meetings are most likely how we will continue.
- For teams to think about: If you are departmentalized how do you want to structure daily check-ins with students who are working remotely?