PUBLIC COMMENT - REGULAR BOARD MEETING 10-20-2020

Question/Comment:

1) As students/classes are quarantined, and as 118 may at some point need to return to remote learning:

a) What will be done to minimize disruption to students who have stayed remote this whole time? (i.e., will remote learners need to change teachers and schedules again?)

b) What will be done to facilitate as smooth a transition as possible back to remote learning for in-person students?

2) I believe that each school has a safety committee - is there parent representation on these committees? If not, I would suggest that at least two parents should be added to each school's safety committee, in order to facilitate transparency, partnership, and increased safety for our students.

Answer:

Please see below.

 a) The school district is in the process of finalizing plans for any potential return to remote learning that focuses on minimizing disruption for all students, including our remote learners. We do not anticipate any teacher changes and are working to minimize any change in schedules.

b) Minimizing schedule changes will maintain established routines, which will assist in the transition to remote learning if necessary.

2. Thank you for your suggestion. Our safety plan has been online since this summer and any updates to that plan will be communicated to our school community.

Question/Comment:

1) Have plans been made for remote learning in the event that the current COVID-19 surge necessitates another closing of school?

2) For those who source and follow COVID-19 data from credible scientists, you are seeing that numbers are spiking, as predicted all along by state and federal health experts, and the next weeks and months are expected to bring much illness and death in our country. What steps are being taken to ensure that as few interruptions as possible for learners who have remained remote take place?

3) With so many disruptions for these students thus far, who have now had two different teachers, will a third change of teacher become necessary?

4) I am thinking if the district doesn't scale back its full, in-person model during this troublesome period, some parents who felt comfortable with full, in-person learning a few weeks ago may begin to feel uncomfortable with in-person learning as cases continue to spike (as predicted) this fall and winter. If parents do pull their kids from full, in-person learning, will our existing remote classes, which are already over crowded (5th grade has 30 students), be split into two classes, or will you keep adding students to classes like 5th grade which are already too crowded.

5) And if so, what steps will be taken to support students who will face their third teacher change?

Answer:

Please see below.

1) We are finalizing plans now and anticipate completion at the end of this week.

2) We are taking steps to ensure remote learner schedules are not disrupted should a school or the entire district revert to remote learning.

3) There will be no involuntary remote teacher changes.

4) We are in the process of hiring additional remote learning teachers to service additional requests for remote only learning.

5) We do not anticipate any involuntary remote teacher changes that would necessitate additional support.