

# **Bear Creek SAC Meeting - 04/21/2021**

In attendance: Tanner Dayhoff; Renee Williams, Rachel Walker; Grace Coe; Caroline Bruce; Leigh Gannan, Robin Norton; Michelle Hill

- Introductions
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    - Meeting Dates - May 19
  - Bear Creek SAC Membership
  - Committee Needs:
    - Co-Chairs - Renee Williams and Tanner Dayhoff
    - Recorder - Kate Stricklan
    - DAC Representative - Rachel Walker
    - Community Representative - OPEN
- Principal Report
  - Student Enrollment
    - Over 90% of students now attending in-person--nice to have so many of the kids back in person (although slightly more challenging from a social distancing stance)
    - Planning for 325 students next year
      - FTE Allocations - 14 rounds
        - 2 Rounds - KG, 1st, 2nd, 3rd
        - 3 Rounds - 4th, 5th
      - Received Appeal - full-time Counselor and Teacher Librarian (approved) first time we have had to ask for this to be granted, not guaranteed long-term for subsequent years
      - Paraeducator time is decreasing--might need to use them in a different, more efficient way
      - PTO budget is based on what can be raised, not a specific amount of targeted hours
      - Specials teachers aren't technically full-time (16 rounds or higher is full-time for a specialist)
      - Hoping to utilize the teacher-librarian role more for student support; Brie Wright (art) is full-time and certified to help generally
      - GT funding has decreased this year; we are hiring a new GT advisor in charge of testing/ALPs and Lisa Chase will stay as enrichment coordinator (increase to 15 hours enrichment coord.)
  - COVID-19 Vaccinations
    - Over 90% of staff will be fully vaccinated post Spring Break
      - Other 10% will be vaccinated before next school year
  - CMAS Participation
    - Not many offsets this year (more in the past)
    - 40 families requested additional assessments (if Language Arts or Math was optional in their year)
  - [Strategic Plan](#)

- DAC Report (Rachel Walker)
  - *Agendas and minutes can be found on the [BVSD WEBSITE](#)*
    - Lots of debate over whether to alter by-laws in this past meeting
    - DAC feels that, until there is equal representation within school SACs, they need to change their messaging and term limits of at-large members from two years to one
    - Working hard to bring an accurate demographic makeup to SAC committees
    - I think the DAC representative might be better suited for someone who has greater patience for bureaucratic meetings--so I am vacating the position
    - Had high hopes for DAC and have not found it particularly engaging
    - Tanner: I appreciate your service and asking tough questions with respect
    - Rachel: new leadership coming into the DAC, which is likely a good thing
    - Some representatives in under-performing schools are grateful for the Equal School Day initiative and standardized school hours, but majority still feel that a Wednesday late start will be disruptive
    - Renee: encourages Rachel to run for school board when the position becomes available
- Equal School Day Discussion
  - Update--email coming imminently
    - 7:50 start, 10 minute soft start; Wednesday one hour late start at 8:50 am
      - Concern about Bear Creek activities, specifically Spotlights and intramurals typically offered before school
      - Now free child supervision is going to be offered on Wednesdays at the school
      - Renee: my job asked me to cost out this extra school care at all the elementary schools and it came to over \$1 million--BVSD turned it over to paras and it would be called 'supervision'--that is putting a lot on a para's plate
      - Tanner: I want to ask our community: would you anticipate using free supervision on Wednesdays?
      - Renee: we could offer Life Long Learning classes on Wednesdays, but it would not be free--probably will include it as a survey option to parents
  - What do we want feedback on?
    - Utilization of Soft Start
      - It will be included as an option presented to parents, but it is likely going to be contentious
      - Caroline: can you clarify what the soft start would look like?
      - Tanner: already happening at two schools: Superior and Lafayette; at Superior, some kids can enter through exterior doors. At Lafayette this year, kids can arrive between 7:50-8:05. Head straight to their classroom when they arrive. BC does not have exterior doors to classrooms, so it can't work quite the same way. So perhaps we will have a 7:50 first bell with teachers coming and leading students in and after that point, someone will man the door and usher students in and won't start lessons until 8 am

- We will have to design something and then see how it works
- Caroline: sounds like the start time is really 8 am, then, and it's not instructional time
- Tanner: this issue was brought up in board meetings as well
- Renee: in reality, the soft start becomes a nightmare from a classroom management standpoint, even though teachers will try to structure it and plan for it--plan for a controlled amount of chaos; as a principal, Tanner, you could choose not to implement it
- Caroline: it might sap enthusiasm for the morning by not going straight into instructional time
- Rachel: agree with Renee; people will likely adjust but if the point is to have standardized hours, the soft start leaves some ambiguity
- Leigh: feels like there are better ways to use this time that we have discussed previously (enrichment, yoga...)
- Kate: worried that the soft start time will bleed into the learning time and get pushed past 8:00
- Grace: I don't think this community would fault you, Tanner, for making a call to minimize or eliminate the soft start
- Robin: agrees that it should be a 7:50 am start
- Caroline: If you're going to do the 7:50 thing, the time should be used efficiently
- Michelle (teacher:): I would use the time for silent reading
- Tanner: thanks for sharing your thoughts and giving me additional things to think about before sending out a survey to parents
- Renee: list the points why we've agreed why it's not a good option in making the decision
- Activities (Spotlights, Intramurals)
  - Some school communities who already have earlier starts do offer before-school activities, so it is possible for us, especially including the soft start time in it
    - Ex. 7:50 (soft start 8), could do Spotlights 7:15 up until 7:55 am, or prefer 2:50-3:25 pm
    - Renee: I'd prefer to do activities in the afternoon (at least Spotlights)
    - Leigh: 7:50 start time is going to be such a big adjustment that throwing in 7:15 am days might be too much this year  
Do you have feedback as to how to word this in the survey?
- [BCE Unified Improvement Plan](#)
  - Priority Performance Challenge
    - "Not all K-3 students are performing at/above ELA achievement expectations"
  - Root Causes--language has been updated slightly since our last meeting
    - Bear Creek teachers need to better understand grade level priority standards, use BVSD's Instructional Model for lesson design, and regularly monitor progress to ensure student learning and growth.
    - Bear Creek needs to strengthen our Student Support Process (identifying appropriate interventions for students, facilitating those interventions, and

monitoring the effectiveness of those interventions) to involve all staff members in a meaningful way so that all students' needs are being met over time.

- Action Plan (associated steps are in the UIP)
  - All K-3 teachers will teach the Foundations phonics curriculum with fidelity.
    - Demonstrated success with this curriculum at Bear Creek and 4th-5th teachers will be educated in Foundations terms
  - For students demonstrating a lack of appropriate progress, and with the support of colleagues, teachers will be able to identify appropriate interventions for students, facilitate those interventions, and monitor the effectiveness of those interventions.
  - Teachers will understand grade level priority standards, use BVSD's Instructional Model for lesson design, and monitor progress regularly to ensure student learning and growth.
    - Have been doing a lot of professional development this year around this topic  
Next year we should have additional math data beyond CMAS  
Tanner: Please send any feedback you have on the UIP to me