

Education Sub-committee Meeting: 5/13/2020

Present: Steven Christina (absent Ali)

Also Present: Patrick Priester, Jackie Dubreuil, Jake Schultz, Elea Kaatz, Kim Grady, Joelle Brookner,
(people joined throughout)

Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 30A sec. 20, the public will not be allowed to physically access this School Committee meeting. Please use the following link to join the Open Session of the meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/94821276715?pwd=M3c4di8xeEVkWjU2aURnL1ZFTy9Sdz09>

Please remember to mute your audio. Thank you!

Open Session Agenda

- I. Call to order
- II. Public comment (please limit your comment length to 3 minutes)
- III. Approval of minutes A. April 23, 2020
- IV. Student Opportunity Act Discussion VOTE
- V. Annual Professional Development Plan discussion
- VI. Remote Learning Survey discussion
- VII. Update of GCVS virtual learning
- VIII. Berkshire County Task Force discussion
- IX. Other business not anticipated by the Chair within 48 hours of meeting X. Motion to adjourn

Called to order at 11:01am

No public comments

Minutes: Christina moves, Miller seconds, to approve minutes from April 23, 2020. Passes unanimously.

Report from Superintendent on Student Opportunity Act. Work in progress, using template from state, has been discussed here and at the school committee. On the order of \$31,000. Will create data teams, haven't had curriculum person recently, have lost some stipends for grade level meetings / data meetings. Each school has a student support team / teacher assist team. Should be another set of people looking at (interventions, putting in another layer of support).

Proposal: Looking for the Education Subcommittee to approve using the \$31,000 that we are receiving from the SOA to reinstate the data teams at WES and LES and create a position of data coordinator at Mt

Greylock Regional School so that we can look at a variety of different data points prior to bringing children up for referral. Aligns to the multi-tiered system of support that were trained on last year.

Comment from Miller: My first budget season had as a top priority 7th-8th grade meetings, great to see this. Also asked and told that the money is sufficient for stipends to fund this.

Nolan: Excited to have a data team to work with.

Christina moves, Miller seconds. Passes 2-0.

Annual Professional Development Plan discussion: Finalized with principals yesterday.

Screenshot (might be an earlier draft version)

Month	Professional Development Activities	Strategic Plan Goals	Potential Books	Other Professional Development
July 2020	Google Suite - EdTech Teachers Canvas Zoom PowerSchool Esped			
August 2020	Google Suite - EdTech Teachers Canvas Zoom PowerSchool Esped Compliance PD - Utilizing Public School Works Multi -Tiered System of Support Restorative Justice	Strategic Plan Goals 1. Diversity Inclusion 2. Social Emotional 3. Public Relations 4. Culture/Climate	Potential Books <u>White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism (Robin DiAngelo)</u> Unconscious Bias in Schools: A Developmental Approach to Exploring Race and Racism (Tracy Benson, Sarah Fierman) Blindspot: Hidden Biases of Good People (Mahzarin R. Banaji) The Behavior Code Wounded by School: Recapturing the Joy in Learning and Standing Up to Old School Culture (Kirsten Olson) Restorative Justice Book???	
September 2020	Technology Climate/Implicit bias Reggie/Rudi Restorative Justice Data training and meetings Choose to be Nice Multi -Tiered System of Support	PD days 8/28/20 8/31/20 3/19/21 MGRS PD days 1/19/21 1/20/21		Paraprofessional Conscious Discipline Public Schools Works First Aide/CPRAED CPI
October 2020	Technology Restorative Justice Data training and meetings Multi -Tiered System of Support	January 2021 Technology Climate/Implicit bias Reggie/Rudi Climate/Implicit bias Shirley Multi -Tiered System of Support Restorative Justice		Cafeteria Serve Safe Public Schools Works OSHA First Aide/CPRAED
November 2020	Technology Data training and meetings Parent conference Multi -Tiered System of Support Restorative Justice	February 2021 Technology Data training and meetings Multi -Tiered System of Support Restorative Justice		Custodians First Aide/CPRAED Public Schools Works OSHA
December 2020	Technology Data training and meetings Multi -Tiered System of Support Restorative Justice	March 2021 Technology Data training and meetings Restorative Justice Multi -Tiered System of Support		Parent Training Google Suites (Classroom specifically) Canvas LMS Bullying Prevention/Cyberbullying PLC with a book Social Emotional Restorative Justice
		April 2021 Technology Data training and meetings Multi -Tiered System of Support Restorative Justice		
		May 2021 Technology Data training and meetings Multi -Tiered System of Support Restorative Justice		
		June 2021 Technology Data training and meetings Multi -Tiered System of Support Restorative Justice		

Strategic Plan Goals: Diversity inclusion, Social Emotional, Public Relations, Culture/Climate

Have things broken down by month as to what working on.

Parent training: Google suites, Canvas, Bullying, ...

Technology training and boot camps: hope to be able to do remotely if needed

July: google suites, powerschool, canvas, zoom, powerschool

August: gogole suit, canvas, powershool, zoom, compliance PD, multi-tiered layer of support, restorative justice.

September: technology, climate/implicit bias, restorative justice, data training and meetings, choose to be nice, multi-tired system of support.

October: Technology, restorative justice, data training, multi-tiered system of support.

November: tech, data training, parent conference, multi-tiered layer of support, restorative justice.

Bringing in books: White fragility, Blindspot, The Behavior Code, Wounded by School, Restorative Social Justice

Patrick: The MTSS of support has SCL built right in to it, aligns with the district improvement plan.

Joelle: Comprehensive plan that will support the goals of all our plans, school / district / strategic.

Jake: All the components in there nest with school improvement plan.

Remote Learning Survey discussion: 170 participants of 1100, responses coming in now.

When remote learning happened, happened quickly. Doing a survey to get a sense of how effective things are, what are the challenges, what is needed. Giving us information that is helpful.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScDTb_X_xysusVMWOkPcHmb5sT4QoiCrPrrCtrVxLCZvTSQ/viewform

Remote Learning Survey for Families

Thank you for your patience and fortitude as we all move into remote learning very quickly. We have been in Phase B for two weeks now and would appreciate feedback you have on your child's and your family's experiences.

* Required

Please indicate the school(s) your children attend. Check all that apply. *

- Lanesborough Elementary School
- Mount Greylock Regional School
- Williamstown Elementary School

Please indicate the grade(s) your children are in. Check all that apply. *

PreK

Kindergarten

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

post 12

Please share your best positive surprise of remote teaching for us...

Your answer

How have you received information about your child's/children's weekly learning?

Please check all that apply.

- Phone
- Email
- Google Classroom
- Canvas Learning Management System
- Class Dojo
- Other

Please rate the effectiveness of those communications on a scale of one (least helpful) to five (most helpful).

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least helpful	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Most helpful

The biggest challenge of remote teaching for my child(ren) is ...

Your answer _____

The biggest challenge of remote teaching for me as a parent/guardian is...

Your answer _____

The supports my child(ren) needs to continue remote learning are...

Your answer _____

Optional: Please provide your name, email and phone number.

Your answer _____

Thank you!

Update of GCVS virtual learning: Kim and Mary talked to people there. Helpful to have a structure for students so times are not changing weekly. Mirror day in a compressed model. Kim was a virtual parent, was a choice.

Mary (talking about peardeck): Google extension. Application so can see what is on a student screen. We can see what tabs are up. Are the students taking notes, looking at the content? Or are they playing a video game. Can lock screen so stay focused on specific content.

Joelle: We have one teacher using it. Need time for training.

Kim: Other components: special education teachers would join live lessons of regular educators, can see what a student is struggling with on the screen and pull into a breakout room. Some materials are mailed home, especially in elementary grades. We were not prepared for that initially, have now sent some things home to families.

Joelle: in an ideal world it would be optimal if we had to do remote learning fulltime / parttime we could send packets of all sorts of material home with students. Concerned with equity, ability to access curriculum, great to send art supplies home. Would love to send hard-copies of books that are reading. This year we got notice on Friday that not coming back....

Karen (from community): Concern about some students who are at risk, are we hearing from those families?

Kim: Hearing from some, some high need special ed, some families both families front line workers and now not in homes and with people not familiar with platforms, some families with emotional / health issues.... Working with them, school social workers / guidance councilors / principals reaching out. Want to make sure reaching all families and can account for all, commissioner emphasizing engagement. If parents have any concerns or issues please reach out to us, we can hit pause and figure out.

Jake: Do have system in place to make sure people are being reached, if someone is not being reached hear also from teachers.

Karen: Glad to hear that hope to have more members of the community involved going forward, pool of people who are willing to do what is needed to help. I would be very happy to deliver packets, do things to help teachers reach out.

COMMENTS FROM STEVE:

1) What did the parent surveys say? What actions is the district taking to address any issues identified in the survey?

2) What % of students are engaged in their classes - and how is that defined? What efforts are being made to connect with the disengaged students?

3) How are the students who were known to have higher social emotional or mental health needs doing now? What are the supports in place for them? How is that being measured?

4) What efforts have been made to hold the community together and what will happen to prepare for the fall in this domain?

5) How well are students learning new material, how is this assessed? What will we need to change for next year?

6) Do we need to start having contingency plans for next year, concerning not being able to come back or coming back and then having another lockdown? If yes, when do we need to start such discussions?

7) How is the credit/no credit affecting students? Grades are often a good motivator, and give a good sense of how well student are grasping material.

8) Some schools have gone to having social zoom sessions. The teachers provide an extras session outside of the learning session to let kids share, the have them do a scavenger hunt, etc. This has happened in some of our classes.

Kim: have had a nurses meeting yesterday, what would it look like to reopen schools, taking temperatures and face masks.

Mary: the learning dynamics that we are in right now, especially given the full preparation, is more to the point of what learning, and the dictates we have from the Department of Ed as to the introduction of complex new material. Focusing on power standards and what need to move to the next grade. Speaking for MtG, we have a community that appreciates the feedback from a grade, feedback teachers are trying to give on individual assignments is to help with that. Not sure if it is the grade that is the issue, or preparing a program that is more comprehensive, admin team thinking of that.

Joelle: The elementary school grades are not the motivating factor, but I have a high school student and in that world too. We can look at grades as a motivating factor, just cannot under-estimate the impact of this time in general, stress it is causing on everyone. When we are having issues with work completion at the elementary level, vast majority are participating and keeping up, those who are not often a very strong component of social emotional mental health. Could be family having a hard time adapting. That heaviness is playing a very large role in some children's engagement. We know that, being very sensitive. If this extends further this question is really really at the top of our list, what kind of additional supports do we need. What other kinds of support can we do? Not a lot of mental health support in the area, what can we do as a community to help.

Kim: have addressed some: wireless hotspots, additional chromebooks, creating learning plans for special ed students, creating google form so teachers are giving admin team information. Haven't talked about a lot of this, on the covid update for Thursday meeting. A lot going on behind the scenes, need to make sure the community is made aware of it, if people need support can ask for it.

Berkshire County Task Force discussion:

Kim: Teachers concerned about additional collaboration.

Steve: I have a lot of experience in shared resources, strongly support, but until the Task Force backs down from one (or is it now three) districts for Berkshire County I do not believe we should be involved with them. They reached their conclusion without a good analysis of data, they have not asked us about our issues with regionalization as they push forward with their plan, they have not demonstrated an expertise in these areas that they are trying to do now, and in the last education meeting when I inquired about sharing and having conversations among teachers across districts, the teachers present were not in favor of adding another layer and said it was not needed.

Other business not anticipated by the Chair within 48 hours of meeting: Kim: Commissioner sent out family update to push out to families. Often late in what sending out, this letter came late as no updates

in it for us at MtG regional school district which we haven't already done. Some families have asked why are we getting – we are required to send out, we have addressed what his requests are. Was sent out over the weekend, went out in isolation (usually put in with other items).

Steve: Can we include a paragraph putting emails from the commissioner in context?

Kim: Yes

Kim: Will purchase some workbooks to help people work over the summer. Get off the screens.

Steve: If anyone has comments or questions can also email me at smiller@mgrhs.org

Motion to adjourn: Moved by Christina, seconded by Steve, passes unanimously at 12:08pm. Meeting adjourned, stay sensible.