



HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 15, 2022

12:00 p.m. – Virtual Meeting

Committee members present: Dr. Tahira A. DuPree Chase, Dr. Roger Bloom, Mary O’Neill, Robert Stein, Michael Hardy, Gary O’Grady (Aramark), Karen Suarez, Todd Goodwin, Elaine Lovell, Juanita Sherwood, Debbie Wachter, Doric Capsis, Cheri DeBellis, Patrick McGovern, Francis Goodness, Kerri O’Donnell (Aramark)

Committee members absent: Dana Docar, Rachel Castillo, Karla Paz, Angela Diglio, Guy Forman, Grace Maschinski (Aramark), Andrea Ramos

The virtual meeting commenced at 12:00 p.m. Mary O’Neill, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, welcomed everyone to the committee meeting.

1. **SEL (Social Emotional Learning)** – Dr. Chase commented on this topic and mentioned the survey for the District, Staff and Children.
2. **Review and clarify the various committee responsibilities:**

There are 3 committees that relate to Safety, Security and Health and Wellness:

- **District Wide Safety Team**
- **Safety and Security Committee**
- **Health and Wellness Committee**

District Wide School Safety Team – is responsible for:

- Revising the Districtwide School Safety Plan

Safety and Security Committee – is responsible for:

- Facility and Security Issues
- Building Safety Plans
- Fire Drills, etc.

Health and Wellness Committee (this Committee) – is responsible for:

- SEL (Social Emotional Learning)
- Nutrition
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3. **Health and Wellness Policy Update:**

The last time this committee reviewed our current Health and Wellness Policy was on April 19th of 2021. NYS recommends that the policy is reviewed annually. In preparation for this annual review, we are sourcing the latest policy recommendations from the:

- NYS School Boards Association (attached)
- BOCES (trying to obtain)

Both of these organizations, provide updated “model policies” for School Districts. We will compare these “model policies” to our current policy to see if we need any updates and will update the committee on this process in the upcoming meetings.

4. **Update on the Dragon Café:**

Upon the request from Aramark to utilize the Dragon Cafe, the District has provided updates to plumbing, electric, and new counter tops. Selected equipment will be arriving shortly, which will complete the process to make the Dragon Café operable again. Kerri O’Donnell from Aramark provided the details for the service for the Dragon Café.

5. **Food Service Comments** – Committee members commented on some food items such as sugar content in various food items, serving cooked, rather than heated food and the likes and dislikes of certain food items being served as expressed by students in their building meetings.

The meeting ended at 12:30 p.m.

Follow up items:

- Research implementing vending machines in schools. (Aramark)

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Michell C. Delmonte-Synnott on behalf of Mary O’Neill and Robert Stein