

Community Forum with Dr. Winslow

January 10, 2022 12:00 p.m.

- Dr. Winslow introduced herself and members in attendance, that will help with the forum, and their rolls. Attendees were invited to put comments and questions in the chat or to unmute themselves for an open discussion.
- Topic Social Emotional Learning – Dr. Winslow shared
 - The definition
 - How it relates during the Pandemic
 - Skills that will not get the job but help you keep the job
 - An overview of SEL at DTSD this year was provided with specific details at each level
 - SEL coaches are available at each level to support students, teachers, and guide teams
- Questions on SEL
 - Community member shared that she is really thrilled and is appreciative of SEL being implemented in the District.
 - Community member asked in regards to Social Awareness, where does diversity play? Dr. Winslow shared that it is important in our community in looking at all the varied businesses and health care facilities that have a diverse population. Curriculum integration – working with Social Studies and English departments to see what we are doing well and what needs work.
 - She also asked if there is a DEI at the DO level? Dr. Winslow shared that we have a group and members that are apart of outside groups. In the curriculum, we are working to make all students feel as though they are a part of the whole.
 - Community member – How are we evaluating the effectiveness of SEL? Dr. Winslow shared that the School Psychologists are phenomenal with data and school psych interns who work with the School Psychologists help with the data as well. A survey was given at the beginning and will be again at the end of the year and going forward for the next 5 years to be sure we are progressing. The information will be provided to the community as an overview in a board presentation.
- Dr. Winslow shared that with the increase in fights, the District is implementing the need to give students the information of what they should do and not emphasize so much on what they shouldn't do.
 - Community member asked if K-12 professional education incorporates everyone? Dr. Winslow indicated that the District is looking to make it more universal but currently is more for teachers and paras. To make change and include more staff it will require contract change. When it has been possible to include other staff like the bus driver's it has always well received.
 - Community member - Do students keep the same homeroom teachers? Dr. Winslow responded that not at this time, but we may bring back in the future.
 - Community member – Do we have a K-1 Guidance Counselor at this time? Ms. Karpel shared that yes, Kaylee Hall.
 - Community member – When will the make -up day for Friday be? Dr. Winslow shared that the District will apply for June 9 to be added on as a staff day and students won't be affected.
 - Community member – Who to turn clearances into? Dr. Winslow indicated Dawn Waggoner would receive the clearances.
 - Community member – Snow make up days and FID days are the best things to come out of the pandemic. Dr. Winslow and others agreed.

- Community member – Earlier this year there was little to no turnover in the teaching staff, Is that still the case? Dr. Winslow indicated that there are normal leaves and sabbaticals, but otherwise still not a lot of turnover.
- Community member – With the recent uptick in fights, how is the District dealing with this? Dr. Winslow shared that the students struggling the most and participating in these events are students that came from other districts and came from a virtual setting. There are also outside events that affects their behaviors in school. SEL has helped identify these students and is helping them work through these things. There is always an uptick around the holidays. We are trying to be proactive instead of reactive.
- Community member – The kiddos coming in from other places, can you explain what you mean by this? Dr. Winslow clarified they are from other areas that hadn't gone back to school last year and the family moved here and were suddenly thrown into a face to face situation in the large student population. The student didn't know where to go to get help with their feelings of being overwhelmed in this situation.
- Community member – Verified all that was just said, her family just moved from Chester county where they hadn't been able to go back to school in the fall. Her children want to make friends but with the distancing it has been a challenge. Dr. Winslow shared that this is definitely happening in other areas as well. Our public officials had a reality check when the fights were happening here at Hershey as well other Districts in the area. This is a difficult space and time to have students move.
- Community member – Are there any parent trainings available with a SEL format? We have a hard district to move into, it is not the most welcoming community for outsiders. Dr. Winslow shared that there has been a lot of conversation but nothing has come to fruition due to the constant scrambling that has been the ongoing scenario.
- Community member – Asked about the influx of children expected from the West End Project and the development across from the HS. Dr. Winslow shared that the land across the HS is Milton Hershey School property and is the new childhood center. The West project is not expected to bring more than about 100 students over the next 10-year period of time. We will be keeping eye on it.
- Community member –The survey on extracurricular activities seemed to have an overwhelming positive response that there are no activities at the elementary level. Dr. Winslow shared that we are looking to bring back the summer camp opportunities for students, however the teachers are tired from the overwhelming events brought on by the pandemic. We are looking to partner with IU and YMCA for the summer childcare piece. Community member wondered if we are looking to expand and bring back the summer camps if we'd use parent volunteers so the burden is not on the teachers. Dr. Winslow shared that it would need to have a limited service contract approved by the Board. Community member shared that without the teachers in the programs the parents have utilized the public library, but that this is costly. She asked if the curriculum meetings, are open for parents to attend? Dr. Winslow shared that in person or virtual attendance is available.
- Community member shared that one of the benefits out of COVID is that this forum is now offered on zoom and is a great opportunity for those to attend that aren't able to in person. Particularly, for parents that work. Dr. Winslow appreciated the helpful feedback.
- Community member asked about the disciplinary code with the uptick in fighting. Dr. Winslow shared that generally, at the minimum ISS is a result. Previously, punishment was given but students weren't held accountable to change their actions. The District is looking to change this and show students the appropriate actions to take before the situation develops to a fight. The worst case, would be an outplacement or expulsion. This is depending on student, the severity of

incident, and repeat offenses. Many factors. Community member asked about the threshold for involving the police department. To which, Dr. Winslow shared that any fight will be shared with the SRO. After collaboration with the SRO it will be determined if the situation needs further police action, all are recorded so there is an ongoing record.