



October 28

2020

REPORT OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Health and Safety Committee (HSC) met on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 11:30 AM via the Blue Jeans Video Conferencing Tool.

The public viewed the meeting via Video Conference.

ATTENDEES

Health and Safety Committee Members

Chairperson Melanie Bates, Eve Bolton, Ben Lindy

Administration/Staff

Laura Mitchell, Superintendent; Krista Boyle, Chief Strategic Engagement Communications Officer; Susan Bunte, Assistant Superintendent; Sarah Trimble-Oliver, Chief Strategy Officer

Sexual Abuse/Sexual Discrimination/Sexual Harassment Prevention

(Report provided by Elizabeth Wolf, Manager, P.E., Health Wellness and Science Curriculum)

Assistant Superintendent Bunte updated the Committee on the following overview of Sexual Education that was provided by the District's Curriculum Department.

Ohio Law:

Ohio has the following three laws surrounding Sex Education.

- The State Education Agency and Local Education Agencies have the authority to choose or approve curriculum for STD Prevention instruction ([Policy 3313.60](#)).
- Parents/Guardians must be provided the opportunity to Opt-out students from STD Prevention instruction.
 - CPS Policy 2240 Controversial Issues
 - CPS is creating a specific STD Prevention procedure with the Health Wellness Steering Committee.
 - This form will be sent to teachers in three ways: Weekly updates, sent through email, and posted in the teacher group on Schoology.
- Abstinence is a required topic of instruction for sexual health education and STD Prevention.
 - Abstinence is covered in the High School Health Curriculum - Pages 23-24, 48, 385-386, 425, 702-703, 716, 742-743, and 744.

Our CPS approved adopted curriculum addresses STD prevention and sex education in the following units.

- High School Health:
 - Unit 5 - Diseases and Disorders
 - Chapter 13 - Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV/AIDS

- 13.1 - Sexually Transmitted Infections - What You Should Know
- 13.2 - Common STIs
- 13.3 - HIV/AIDS
- Unit 7 - Social and Health Wellness
 - Chapter 18 - Healthy Family and Peer Relationships
 - Sexual Harassment
 - Rape
 - Chapter 19 - Dealing with Conflict, Violence, and Abuse
 - Human Trafficking
 - Unwanted Sexual Activity
 - Sex Trafficking
 - Sexual Abuse
- Unit 8 - The Human Life Cycle
 - Chapter 20 - Reproduction & Pregnancy
 - Chapter 21 - Childbirth & Parenting Newborns
 - Chapter 22 - Human Development across the Life Span
 - Chapter 23 - Pregnancy Prevention
 - Chapter 24 - Understanding Sexuality

The Committee agreed that details required by the State have been achieved. Assistant Superintendent Bunte stated that the Curriculum Department is also comfortable on how this topic is being covered.

Draft - Anti-Racism Policy

The Committee reviewed a draft of the Anti-Racism Policy, along with the Ohio Department of Education’s *Resolution to Condemn Racism and to Advance Equity and Opportunity for Black Students, Indigenous Students and Students of Color*.

The Committee discussed adding the Ohio Board of Education’s following language to CPS’ policy:

Further resolved that the State Board of Education shall offer training to State Board members to identify our own implicit biases so that we can perform our duties to the citizens of Ohio without racial bias;

Chairperson Bates recommended, if agreed upon, doing the training at a Board Retreat or Work Session.

Committee member Bolton recommended including employees, contractors, etc., in the training. She also recommended looking into using The Kirwan Institute to conduct the training, as well as looking into local vendors.

Ms. Bates recommended making a broader statement about training due to the number of employees at the District. She will recommend that the Superintendent work on the training.

Committee member Bolton advised to do a Board resolution that would direct the Superintendent to facilitate the training.

The Committee talked about reaching out to the following groups for input into the policy: AMOS, the Jewish Federation, and the NAACP as examples.

ACTION: The HSC will recommend that the Administration review the draft Anti-Racism Policy to pull out and identify procedures that are in the policy.

ACTION: Individual Board members will continue to review the policy and provide input to the Policy Committee. The HSC will continue review of the Policy for recommendation to the Board upon the end of their review.

ACTION: The HSC will recommend Board members to review the Ohio State Board of Education’s Resolution. A copy of the Resolution is attached to these minutes.

“Mask On For Me!” Campaign

Ms. Boyle updated the Committee on the following “Masks on For Me!” campaign presentation.

Objective

A student-driven campaign intended to encourage the CPS and Greater Cincinnati communities to follow COVID-19 health and safety protocols including the wearing of face masks.

Ideas

- **Component 1**
Art students complete pieces of work inspired by the “Masks On For Me!” campaign. Dr. Rudnick/team to help identify the top pieces, which will be utilized in materials for the campaign — posters, social media, online, etc.
- **Component 2**
Partner with community organizations such as the Reds Community Fund and local businesses to help magnify the message (advocacy, spokespeople, social magnification, posters/fliers)
- **Component 3**
Submit guest columns in Enquirer and Herald from:
 - Students
 - CPS
- **Component 4**
Yards signs for parents, staff and community members to display outside homes
Banners outside schools

Social/Media

- Social Media (organic and paid)
 - #MasksOnForCPS
 - #MasksOnForMe
- YouTube/video
- Website
- Employee emails
- Press release
- Radio ads
- Potential Metro ads
- Community partners
- Yard signs for parents and teachers
- Banners at schools

Timeline

Four-week Rolling campaign beginning the week of October 19

Week of October 19

- Kickoff with social media (10/21)
- Web and video

- Employee and parent emails
- Press release
- Share assets with RC3 (Regional COVID Communications Center)

Week of October 26

- Feature in Superintendent Report
- Ongoing social (still photos and video)
- Student Art
- Radio ads

Week of November 2

- Ongoing social media
- Banners outside of schools

Week of November 9

- Yard signs printed and distributed
- Social media posts with student art and spokesperson (boosted)

Committee Member Lindy inquired about outcomes from the initiative.

Ms. Boyle reported that she will be measuring increases in use of social media, web hits, and open rates on email. She will update the Committee on statistical measures of the campaign.

Ms. Bolton recommended using “Mask on For Me,” instead of “Mask on for CPS” for the campaign.

The Committee talked about having masks available to pass out in the community, and students making videos about them wearing masks. They also discussed wearing masks around the holidays and doing a campaign on wearing masks around the holidays.

Ms. Boyle is also working with Athletics and the leadership groups on the campaign.

COVID-19 Measures Safety Update

Sarah Trimble-Oliver, Chief Strategy Officer, updated the Committee on the following **Safety Measures** included in her presentation.

- Blended Learning School Opening
 - 5 safety hotline calls
 - 115 COVID illness hotline calls
 - 16 safety huddles
 - 97 percent implementation of safety measures (per Daily Staff Safety Report)
 - 156 students in isolation area, 6 positive cases
- Community Health Data
- Health Advisory Group

A copy of the full report is available upon request and in the Board office.

Committee member Bolton expressed concern about staff reporting concerns to the principals in order to get them cleared up before contacting the Administration. She also expressed the comfortableness about principals reporting to the Administration about concerns at their schools.

Ms. Bolton expressed concern about accountability of ensuring that schools are cleaned and sanitized.

From the testimonies of parents, Ms. Bolton advised the Administration to get the word out about how CPS is doing a good job at making the schools safe for students to return to the classroom.

Ms. Trimble-Oliver will work with Ms. Boyle on getting the word out to the community about CPS being a safe place.

Mr. Lindy inquired if CPS is working with The National COVID-19 School Dashboard (interview with Emily Oster) that empowers school leaders and policy makers, as well as the general public, to examine current conditions of schools nationwide. <https://watson.brown.edu/news/2020/national-covid-19-school-dashboard-interview-emily-oster>

Ms. Trimble-Oliver reported that Cincinnati Children’s Hospital has sent her the information about the Dashboard and she is now looking into how the District can participate. She will update the Board about the Dashboard at the October 28 Regular Business Meeting.

Mr. Lindy asked if Hamilton County turns into a “purple situation,” can a strategic group of children be brought back to in-person learning—specifically students with certain types of special needs—maybe young children based on last year’s math scores.

Ms. Bunte stated that Student Services is discussing students with special needs and those having problems with distance learning, although this is not yet fully vetted.

She stated that if the county is in a “purple status” that there would be a need for students to remain at home, and if there is a need for the District to stay home and things get incrementally better, then students would be brought back into the buildings. She reiterated that no final decisions have been made.

Committee member Bolton mentioned that back in July the Superintendent talked about a variance plan, about maybe bringing back preschoolers for five days a week, would be long term. Ms. Bolton stated this is more crucial now than before for special needs units.

The meeting adjourned at 12:38 pm.

Health and Safety Committee

Melanie Bates, Chair
Eve Bolton
Ben Lindy

Staff Liaisons

Laura Mitchell, Superintendent
Susan Bunte, Assistant Superintendent
Sarah Trimble-Oliver, Chief Strategy Officer