

**District Parent Council**  
**Meeting minutes**  
**February 8, 2021 9-11am**  
**Online Zoom during Covid-19**

**Welcome and introductions - Sarah Allen**

**Attendees - Sarah Allen, Stacy Bailey, John Hood, Niki Robinson, Shannon Nedds, Karen Shapiro, Janet Philips, Katie Cavanaugh, Liz Luyendyk, Kris Arnett, Nathan Schuster**

**Superintendent update - John Hood**

- Parent commitment forms - 60% staying online, 40% wanting to return
  - Looking into the finer numbers per grade and teacher.
  - More elementary age want to come back to in-person than the higher ed
- Let families know what things will look like NLT Feb 22.
- Numbers for busses not low enough to ensure social distancing.
- New air filters being installed
  - Looking into ionization system - trying to get the system redesigned per building
- Equity work
  - Survey questions being developed for alumni, students, staff, community
  - DEI survey out next week possibly
  - Goal of rewriting of our equity plan
  - Mascot committee has met 2x, to review the idea of possibly changing the mascot.
- Antigen testing
  - Considering testing for employees and students
  - Antigen fast testing a possibility opportunity for state support
    - Need to staff the testing though
    - ~70% accurate, so false positives may happen
      - Could create staffing issues.
- Calendar update
  - P/T conferences may be moved to accommodate
- Questions?
  - There has been a focus on the ionization system, what about the air changes?
    - We have tested our buildings and all meet or exceed the minimum recommendations.
  - Testing positives - if mitigations are in place, then the program should not be quarantined in the whole classroom. There is a problem with busses, etc. when all the mitigations cannot be maintained.
  - Consensus for teachers going back?
    - Teachers are nervous
    - Not consistent in how they feel
    - They are emotional
    - Teachers don't know their numbers yet per class

- At the minimum the teachers simply want the mitigation measures in place.
    - They understand they have a job to do
  - What percentage of teachers are vaccinated?
    - Unknown - teachers union will be providing numbers to the board.
    - OPS cannot ask teachers to divulge health information
    - Possibly some teachers returning without being vaccinated.
  - What is the status of the teacher teaching live and online?
    - Still working to see what our numbers are before committing on the purchase and programming.
  - Do we know how many teachers are coming back?
    - A small handful may be looking at another option.
  - When would we know about teacher changes?
    - In the weeks leading up to our return.
  - Will the carline be adjusted by OPS?
    - We are working with it, but there are some areas that are problematic.
- Assistant food service director is managing the meal distribution while we wait for the new hire.

#### **School Board Update - *Katie Cavanaugh***

- Board made the decision to return, and has heard from many people with a wide range of perspectives.
- Support the change from metrics to mitigations, because the science is pointing to going back
- They're excited the ventilation will be done.
- May elections vote will bring a vote for the sinking fund.
  - Looking for assistance from the community to "get out the vote" for an update of the sinking fund, basically for property maintenance.
  - This is a RENEWAL not a new tax
  - New asphalt, HVAC, fencing, can also be used for technology and security.
  - Question: Who has helped with the "Vote Yes" campaign before?
    - Martha Hentz and Amy Crites, did this previously, just need to update the materials.

#### **OPM - Central - *Shannon Nedds***

- December - collection for a food bank. Proud of substantial turnout
- Working closely with PTO - planning.
  - Pattern of outdoor learning spaces have been made higher on the priority list.
    - Utilized a grant from Meridian Township
- PPK - celebrated 100th day of school.
- Classroom visits - getting to hear and see the students (virtually) - really impressed with the teachers how they handle the technology.
- Looking forward to providing a safe and fulfilling program when the students return.

## **Presentation - Behavior and Mental Health - Stacy Bailey, Asst. Superintendent of Curriculum**

- Social Emotional Learning Support Staff Update Presentation
  - Strategic Plan process outlined
  - How to maintain healthy students and staff.
  - SEL workgroup tasks
    - Resource links on [OPS website](#)
    - Family wellness form sent out at the building level.
  - mySAEBRS - screening option for emotional and social behavior
    - Student screening with questions for self assessment and teacher assessment
  - Continue to build resources and cross department collaboration
  - Question - when is this information shared with parents?
    - When the system identifies indicators or patterns.
  - Question - Are you looking at how this support system will work when the kids return?
    - Yes, we are working to streamline and unify the team.
  - Question - do you have recommendations on what to read or look at to identify support mechanisms
  - Question - do parents have access to the questions?
    - We do not publish the questions, for the sake of not skewing the data.
  - We are planning to also address the anxiety of returning, also referencing what has been learned by other districts.

## **Building updates**

### **OHS - Niki Robinson**

- **Updates**
  - Students leaving the country: Any student who is planning to leave the country, regardless of the time frame (two weeks, a month, etc), will need to turn in their device to the main office at OHS. Devices are not allowed to leave the country. Devices will be reissued a device upon their return.
- **Important Dates**
  - February 10 Parent Group Meeting, 9:00 a.m.  
Join Zoom OHS Parent Meeting  
<https://aamco.zoom.us/j/95551635201?pwd=VmxbpEQveW95eHlFOTkxdE13YU9PQT09>  
Meeting ID: 955 5163 5201 Passcode: 666022
  - February 15 There will no meal service on Monday, February 15, 2021  
Instead, Thursday, February 11, 2021 anyone can pick up a meal bag that includes seven breakfasts and seven lunches. The normal schedule will resume on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - February 17 Virtual Diversity Assembly
  - February 24 Scheduling process for the 2021-2022 school year begins
  - March 10 Parent Group Meeting, 9:00a.m.

### **Chippewa – Kristin Arnett and Niki Robinson**

- **Updates**

- Lansing Community College is announcing their Youth Program Spring 2021 classes. Their goal is to offer students from ages 7-14 a wide variety of opportunities to enjoy high caliber academic pursuit in the fields of science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM). Courses are described at <https://www.lcc.edu/community/youth-programs/>.
- The Chippewa Parent Group has partnered with Rite Aid for a simple fundraising opportunity for purchasing your prescriptions and other qualifying items at Rite Aid. This link will describe it further. Please view the shared link: [RITE AID](#) and share with friends and family.
- The Mid-Michigan chapter of Graduate Women in Science is hosting our first Virtual Girl's Math and Science Day on Saturday, March 20th, 2021 from 1:00-4:15 pm EST. This is a fantastic opportunity for middle school-aged girls to participate in STEM demonstrations led by some of MSU's enthusiastic and knowledgeable graduate students and researchers. The day for each participant will consist of a keynote speaker talk and four individual STEM-themed activities. Girls must register for the event using the following link: <https://midmichigan.wixsite.com/gwis/girlsmathscienceday> Registration opens on February 12th and is FREE of cost!

### **Kinawa –Karen Shapiro**

- **Updates**

- The Board will be discussing details of a virtual science fair at our upcoming Board and Parent Group meetings. Ideas to include science teachers and utilize Flipgrids for presentations.
- As in previous reports: If parents feel that their student is in need of support, they can fill out the form found at the link below and a Kinawa School counselor will be in touch with the student in the next 1-2 school days. These responses are reviewed daily during school hours.  
<https://forms.gle/Ypyaxo2EmSqRPZLg7>. The counselors also have a Google Classrooms set up with general student information as well as weekly wellness resources. Students can join with the code: yc54vyn

- **Important dates**

- The next Kinawa Parent Group board meeting will take place online on Wednesday, February 10th.
- Students will take the MySaebrs winter screener Feb. 8 th and Feb. 9 th

### **Cornell – Liz Luyendyk**

- Question - Is there support for the Mileage club?
  - Are there other schools with a plan? - OPM, yes.

### **OPM – Katie Cavanaugh and Niki Robinson**

- **Updates**

- Various fundraisers including

- an eat out at Panera on Feb. 19
- Valentine's Day Chocolate Fundraiser – Families can order chocolates and treats from Royal Eats and Treats
- Craft fundraiser with Art Unlimited – order a pallet painting kit to do at home
  - Online Auction planned for end of the year
- PTO continues to collect recipes from families for the OPM Cookbook
- Students made Valentine's Day cards for residents in multiple assisted living homes and patients at Sparrow
- PTO is helping to create an outdoor classroom space at Central, currently seeking student input

**Bennett Woods – Janet Philips and Nathan Schuster**

- **Updates**
  - No significant update beyond what is published to the community from the school.
  - From Noelle Palasty - working hard on the transition and re-opening.
- **Important Dates**
  - Materials Distribution week of 2/8

**Hiawatha –Carly Patel and Amy Burton**

**No report**

**New business**

- Brainstorming to think about who might join DPC because it's best to have 2 members per school.

**Next meeting - March 15, 2021 - 9-11am - Hiawatha report, online Zoom**