

## **Superintendent's PIE**

**September 22, 2021**

**11:00 A.M.**

### **Remote Meeting Held on Zoom**

- I. Superintendent Brad Crozier began the meeting by welcoming the community members present, passing along a few updates, and explaining the procedures for the meeting.
  1. Routine COVID Safety Checks (formerly known as “pooled testing”) began today. CIC staff wasn't available, so the testing was done by SPS staff and parent volunteers. The administration will follow-up with CIC to find out why their staff wasn't able to conduct the testing.
  2. There has been an increase in the number of families signing up for the Routine COVID Safety Checks. Three schools are now over 80% signed up, and the other two schools are in the mid-70% range. This information is always available on our COVID Data Dashboard.
  3. This is Day 13 of school, and the district is in the process of working out transportation issues.
- II. Questions from Participants
  1. Do the staff vaccination numbers include bus drivers?
    - i. As third-party vendors, they are not included in the vaccination statistics.
  2. What is the long-term plan for students who are out of school for multiple days as a result of being exposed to COVID outside of school or otherwise waiting for test results?
    - i. Students are not eligible for “Test and Stay” if they were close contacts with a positive case outside of school. For these students, COVID learning plans will be developed by the student's team of educators. This will include both synchronous and asynchronous work, depending on the student's health. COVID learning plans are for students in isolation or officially on quarantine.

3. Are schools notified about positive case identifications and close contacts?
  - i. Yes, the School Nurses are notified by the Board of Health or through a shared software system of students who are determined to be COVID positive and/or close contacts.
4. Are parent volunteers required to provide proof of vaccination?
  - i. Parents who are volunteering for the schools will be required to provide proof of vaccination, but those who are only visiting for a conference will not.
5. Are students allowed to attend school in the event that a family has a cold, but has not been tested for COVID?
  - i. If someone in the household is experiencing COVID-like symptoms, parents are encouraged to give the School Nurse a call to determine the appropriate course of action.
6. Can you provide more information on the Washington, D.C. trip? Specifically, are all 8th graders expected to attend, and/or what will be done for students who do not go?
  - i. The district is strongly encouraging all students to partake in the trip, including creating scholarships for students who may need financial assistance. Students who do not go will be expected to complete an alternate civics project and the assigned work from school. They will still be required to attend school while the rest of the grade is away. There will be more information given at a meeting for parents later this week.
7. Are assessments being conducted as they were prior to the pandemic, or are adjustments still being made to accommodate the pandemic?
  - i. MCAS results were released yesterday, and the 2021 test showed that performances were down from 2019. These will be combined with district assessments to determine the appropriate course of action for each class and student. There will be more data-heavy presentations

made at School Committee meetings this year to help the Committee and public understand where the district finds itself and where it will be going in the near future. As a district, we are following the plan to teach grade level standards and fill in any required skills. Reading and math assessments are currently being administered to find out more about student abilities and needs.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:40 AM. The next PIE meeting will be on October 14, 2021, at 5:00 PM. The remote meeting link will be sent via email the week of the meeting.