Olean City School District
Operations Committee Meeting
Monday, February 8, 2021
4:35 pm
Via ZOOM

Present:	Ira Katzenstein	Kelly Keller
	Janine Fodor	Rick Moore
	Jenny Bilotta	Aaron Wolfe
	Jen Mahar	Jen Kless
	Vicki Zaleski-Irizarry	Frank Steffen, Jr. (joined at 4:47 pm)
Guest:	Brian Crawford	Lauren Stuff
	Nick Patrone	Brad Stevens
Observer:	Mary Hirsh-Schena	

Policy #3421 - TITLE IX AND SEX DISCRIMINATION
Brad Stevens – School Attorney – reviewed the revisions he made to new policy #3421, which came from BOCES

- Janine noted the district has similar discrimination policies in the 3000, 6000 series
- Language in the policy is covered under statutes, federal and state laws that must adhere to
- Jenny and Aaron noted they participated in Title IX training – Title IX laws changed in August 2020 – the new law stipulates procedures, process of complaints need to be adopted

Policy #3420 – NON-DISCRIMINATION AND ANTI-HARASSMENT IN THE DISTRICT

- Rick noted he emailed this policy to Brad today

The committee recommended Brad review policies #3420, #3421 as well as other district policies to determine overlap, redundancy, etc.

Brad exited the meeting at 4:55 pm

Erin's Law

- Jen Kless discussed the child sexual abuse and exploitation curriculum
- Jen has been working with BOCES, Cattaraugus Community Action and district guidance counselors
- Ready to move forward with PreK-3 presentations (30 minutes long) – letters will be sent home to parents; still making plans for grades 4 – 8

Student presentation – about music and art across all grade levels….what is going on and how are they doing? Making the presentation into a 10 – 15 minute video that can be shared by all on the board and archived is strongly recommended; including kids and teachers. This is a timesaver as viewing the presentation is outside the meeting.

- Rick asked the committee to explain what they are looking for; recommended the board email him a list of topics and questions the committee would like answered
- Committee recommended teachers, students, staff at all grade levels be interviewed and recorded; Mary noted that she has discussed BOE presentations with Rick

School Climate Survey – what are the students' results (summarized), next steps, etc. Did we do a school climate survey with employees? If not, what might be recommended? If yes, what are the results (summarized), next steps, etc.
Jen Mahar reviewed the results from the five-question survey

- Round 1 - 871 responses from students in grades 4 – 12 (remote learning
    - 5 questions (completion of class assignments; effort put into learning class material; how do people at school understand you; is it important for you to do well in class; what can be done to better support you
    - Jen review the responses to the questions
    - Attendance data shared with principals and guidance counselors – discussions on remote engagement, scheduling, grading, etc.
    - Parent conferences, home visits, outreach
    - Tutoring, intervention, technology issues
- Round 2 is currently underway (hybrid learning)
    - The committee recommended surveying parents of students in grades PreK-3 as well as an employee survey
    - If the district could return to 100% in-person, would all parents send their kids; how many parents would want to continue 100% remote instruction? This information will be helpful in bringing more students back as well as planning for the 2021-2022 school year

What is long-term plan for remote learning….specifically are there any changes being made to improve our current offerings? What plans have been or need to be made to bring children (all or part) of the kids back to school? What criteria must we meet to make it happen?

- Rick noted that he spoke to Dr. Watkins, DOH, who feels the 6' social distancing rule is not going to be relaxed any time soon
- New guidelines expected to come out soon
- Currently bringing back some high-needs SWD; HS is bringing at-risk students after school
- Rick noted he would like to see all students return, however, the district has to follow the Reopening Plan
- COVID vaccines are being administered, however, there is a shortage; there has been a spike in COVID cases in adults
- Kelly noted she would like to see all students 100% in person by the end of the school year, if possible
- Janine discussed the need for new content to be taught every day of every week; curriculum in being paced and modified; some students only getting 50% of the curriculum – students will not be prepared to advance if some students are only getting instruction two days per week; gr. 6 & 7 teachers are teaching new curriculum every day – what is happening at other grades levels; what is the expectation teaching staff?
- Parents are experiencing a large difference in their child(ren) instruction and learning experiences – is there a district-wide expectation? Were expectations communicated and put in writing to faculty? Rick noted that he will communicate the district's expectation – deliver new content each day of the week!!!
- How does the district make the current hybrid model better? What type of help and support does the teaching staff need from the board?

2021-2022 School Year

- What is the plan? 100% in-person or continue with hybrid plan?
- Kelly noted numerous schools are 100% in-person; Olean students are losing out and getting further behind

Substitutes – process….what are criteria to be on the list, how is list used, are there gaps

- Rick sent the information in the Red & Gold
- Aaron noted he put a halt on sub interviews at the beginning of the school year due to COVID, he will relax that halt
- On many occasions he has been able to use Teacher Aids to cover classrooms instead of substitute teachers
- This item will be placed on the next agenda for further discussion

Update on report cards and passing rates….how can we improve passing rates and student performance….and update on summer school which relates to passing

- Jen Mahar reviewed 2019-2020 marking periods 1 & 2 to this year's which reflects and increase in students family 1, 2, 3 or more classes
- Many students are not engaging; teachers, principals, guidance counselors have reached out to students and parents
- Numerous students are logging on, however, not turning in assignments
- Absenteeism is having a negative impact on performance
- STAR Benchmarking – grades 4 & 5 was done in the Fall
- PreK-3 currently underway
- Jen Mahar noted there is quite a difference this year compared to previous years
- The committee requested that Jen Mahar do a video commentary on the information she presented and email it to the board

MUSH – Making Us Stronger Huskies

- Spring – curriculum meetings; intervention and tutoring
- Summer – Expand program – program at each elementary school; intervention, Title 1/AIS; Kindergarten Boot Camp
    - What will summer school look like; what will the criteria be for a student to attend; how many students will be able to attend is social distancing is still in affect; will the district be able to secure enough staff
- Fall – after school tutoring/AIS, Math intervention
- Husky Strong celebrations

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Next meeting: March 1, 2021 at 4:30 pm