Oakes SAC Meeting Notes

October 22, 2020

Participants

- Principal: Derek Fleshman
- Dean: Brian Wood
- Teachers: Jules Daley, Nadene Klein
- Parents: Barbara Hannigan, Laura Welch
- Students: Madison Firouztash
- Community: Rebekah Brooks
- Recorded by: Emily Hopkins

Reflection on school year so far

- Student perspective: Going online was much better this time around (versus March 2020), because students could interact with teachers and peers. School still feels normal other than smaller classes and wearing masks. The option to be in class via Google Meets when sick at home is great, because students get to still "be in school" and stay up to date with work.

● Parent perspective: Seems good so far, students seems happy to be in school ● Teacher perspective: Things are going fairly well, there is respect and care within the community, and there have been positive responses from students regarding PPE and proper social distancing. Planning has been easier this quarter, teachers have prepared to go virtual again at any moment. Quarantine was easier this last time around, and students were more interactive with using Google Meets. Most students showed up virtually and were able to get caught up quickly before the end of the grading period. Everyone (both students and staff) seems aware that the school will probably go back to virtual off and on several times over the next few quarters, while COVID-19 is still a looming threat. There are more attendance contracts this quarter already, but students are hanging out in the commons to get to know each other and building relationships. ● Principal perspective: We might be looking into changing schedules for next quarter - maybe limit School Success, maybe limit teachers each student interacts with. We want to limit contact between multiple teachers and students so that if we do need to quarantine again, it doesn't have such a big impact. Oakes can currently stay open for in person learning if only 3-4 teachers are out due to quarantine, but any more than that would require virtual learning again. Students need to stay home sooner when starting to feel ill, because everyone at Oakes wants to be in the building for school. DCSD administration is constantly reviewing procedures to determine the correct guidance for schools needing to quarantine or switch to virtual learning. There is currently a rumor on elementary students moving to 5 days/week in-person learning. This might be expanded to MS and HS. We don't currently know how that impacts Oakes, as all protocols and ideas are changing by the second. Case numbers are increasing in CO, and all we can do is wait and see how policies change, while adhering to safe social distancing and PPE.

Fundraising

- No current updates, tabled this topic for the next meeting

SAC Community Voting Members

- SAC Chair - Victoria Hostin
- SAC Vice Chair - Laura Welch
- Teacher - Wood
- 3 parent voters - Victoria Hostin, Laura Welch, Barbara Hannington
- Community - Rebekah Brooks
- DAC Liason - Laura Welch

SAC By-laws have been accepted

Victoria and Derek will sign bylaws and submit next week

Student Council

Student perspective on parental use use of parent portal at Oakes

- At Oakes, parents are encouraged to NOT use the PP as much as they have in the past (prior to attending Oakes), to give more responsibility to the student.
- Student perspective: It's good because it gives students more responsibility to own their own work and to know what's going on and what's due when. This helps kids grow up. They think parents probably agree. It does help to get progress grades throughout the quarter to keep up with work and progress toward graduation.
- Parent perspective: Successful for their personal situation. It has been working, and things are calmer at home. It seems helpful for students to take ownership and be responsible for themselves. Alumni parents saw their son grow into a man while at Oakes. Compared to siblings who attend another school, it seems to be a better option, and not strain the relationship as much as when the parent was using the PP regularly.
- Teacher perspective: There seems to be less conflict at home, and teachers hear about this during Parent/Teacher conferences. This allows teachers to problem solve with students while at school, and this tends to end up with better relationships at home.

Enrollment packet includes a letter from Student Council, which outlines this view of the Parent Portal at Oakes. All are agreed to keep including it for new students and parents.

Emergency Drills

- Reviewed by Brian Wood. Fire drill occurred Oct 5, with nothing remarkable to report on.

Budget

- Current budget was presented, with no questions asked.
- CARES Act payment to teachers is in progress to be resolved
- October Count numbers, and resulting funding for next school year, will be available in December

Open Discussion

- Oakes will be acquiring the District Library Media Center (the building behind Oakes) slowly over the rest of this year. Next school year the Oakes GED testing center will become the DCSD GED Program with GED tutoring and testing (including for those over

age 21), and office space for expulsion service and mobile DCSD employees who work with at-risk students. The additional classroom space will be used for a new fine arts program.

- Friday in-person learning is being tabled until the next meeting, in order to hear more about the pending plans from DCSD.

Next SAC GoogleMeet is scheduled for
Thursday January 28, 2021 6:00pm