

## Social-Emotional Wellness & Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 12, 2025, 5:00 pm

GMTCC – Conference Room

Attending: Jeff Hunsberger, Nancy Guyette, Denise Webster, Kyle Nuse, Mark Nielsen, Jan Sander, David Manning, Kimberly Hunt, Kelly Shortsleeve, Catherine Gallagher

Meeting called to order @ 5:01pm

Jeff announced he would need to leave at 5:30 for another meeting, so Denise would close down meeting

No public at meeting, so no public comment.

Cat spoke on the full board responsibilities: reviewing and approving new personnel hires; reviewing and approving personnel firing; hearing appeals. She also spoke on sub-committee responsibilities: to set achievable goals, review and collect data on them. She reminded us that it is not our responsibility to meet with public and address their concerns, we are not in the chain of command. These should be referred to the superintendent's office for review and actions. She reviewed some common questions she has received lately pertaining, and steps that were taken.

On another note, she stated that Infinite Campus, which the schools have been using for about the last year, by next year will be able to translate student information into many different languages, making it much easier for parents who do not speak English as their primary language to follow their student's progress!

Kelly (Director of Nutrition Services) updated us on what she is working on.

- A 2 year grant will be ending in June.
- There were 8 food service awards available – we have now achieved all 8!
- We will be purchasing equipment to start a bakery here at Lamoille! This will ensure that all baked goods will be made in house, and will mean that about 80% of all food served across the district will be made from scratch.
- Vending machines are all SmartSnack compliant, but there are still 2 sodas (both sugar-free,) that she is trying to eliminate
- They are working on recipes to ensure they use whole grains, and that they eliminate all food dyes
- They took away chocolate milk because it was non-compliant with the USDA. A group of students wrote to Hood asking them to change their recipe to become compliant – and Hood has agreed! Students learned they can make a difference.
- It costs between \$6.50-7.00/day per student to feed all students for breakfast, snack, and lunch
- Farm to school grants are diminishing
- Our fish comes from Stowe Seafood – it is usually 2 days from Maine coast to here!
- Salvation Farms purchases produce that can't be sold in grocery stores, sells to us at a discounted rate

- We also work with Green Mountain Farm Direct
- Each day students are offered a gluten-free and vegetarian options

Kimberly (Director of Curriculum) spoke on new data on student research. They need to save information to neural pathways every 8-10 minutes. Kids absorb things best when not being lectured to, but by doing. Outdoor time is important, even if just having lessons taught outside. They did find that for some students movement breaks can be too dysregulating, sometimes just moving from station to station, getting up to turn in papers is enough to help them save info.

There is a new law being worked on for K-3 requirements.

Dave told about in Johnson, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are working with a teacher, measuring, calculating cost of supplies for a new outdoor learning space next to the garden. A local contractor is donating his time to build. Teachers will get to sign up for outdoor class time.

Elementary school principals and music teachers are working together to offer services to schools to have currently have all services (i.e. no band in HP.) 2 teachers have offered to be traveling teachers.

Meeting adjourned @ 5:43 p.m.

## **Safety and Social Emotional Wellness Committee Roles and Responsibilities:**

1. School Safety Planning:
  - a. Review safety policies and protocols for the district, including emergency preparedness, crisis management, and campus security.
  - b. Monitor the implementation of safety measures and recommend improvements as needed.
2. Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Integration:
  - a. Advocate for the integration of SEL programs into the school curriculum and culture.
  - b. Review SEL curricula and resources to promote students' emotional intelligence, resilience, and well-being.
3. Mental Health Services and Support:
  - a. Collaborate with the administration to ensure that mental health services are accessible to all students.
  - b. Recommend strategies for supporting student mental health, including counseling, peer support programs, and partnerships with community mental health organizations.
4. HHB Prevention and Intervention:
  - a. Oversee the development and implementation of anti-bullying policies and programs.
  - b. Ensure that the district has effective strategies in place for preventing and addressing bullying, harassment, and discrimination.
5. Staff and Student Wellness:
  - a. Promote wellness initiatives for both staff and students, including physical health, nutrition, and stress management programs.
  - b. Recommend policies and practices that support a healthy work-life balance for educators and a positive learning environment for students.
6. Community Engagement and Education:
  - a. Engage with families and the broader community to raise awareness about safety and wellness issues.
7. Policy Development and Compliance:
  - a. Ensure that district policies related to safety and wellness are up-to-date and compliant with state and federal regulations.
  - b. Monitor the implementation of these policies and recommend adjustments as needed.
8. Crisis Response and Trauma-Informed Practices:
  - a. Advocate for trauma-informed practices and support systems for students and staff who have experienced trauma.
  - b. Ensure that the district has a comprehensive crisis response plan in place, including support for affected students and families.