



Brooklyn Center Community Schools Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes 7.17.25

Please see page two for notes about program and content updates.

- In attendance: Mykella Auld (community), Laura Ringen (staff), Madeline Anderson-Sarno (staff), Ben Hanson (staff), Yazmin Guzman Gonzalez (staff), Dean Lunderberg (staff), Debbie Erickson (staff), Jackie Billhymer (partner), Shel Auld (staff)
- Grant Projects
 - Action For Healthy Kids Healthy Meals Incentives update - Ben
 - i. Spend-down and projects: new BCS flat top grill; creating the final list of supplies to purchase
 - ii. Megan position wrap up (probably mid August): creating menu cycles with Ben
 - iii. Ben and Shel will continue to collaborate on the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program (snacks 2-3 days/week at BCE) and the Farm to School (local produce procurement) grants Megan received in the past few months; Ben will implement and Shel will coordinate with reporting
 - MnDOT SRTS Coordinator grant - Dean and Shel
 - i. Mary's schedule + next steps and tasks: Returns mid-Aug; family outreach at the start of the school year (especially BCE for Walking School Bus recruitment); bike repairs and maintenance systemization (including sustainable funding) for the bike fleet
 - ii. W, B, F training 25-26SY planned with four sessions (2 "classroom" sessions of Walk, Bike, Fun, 1 session of bike maintenance and 1 session in April for the drills and outdoor ride)
 - iii. MnDOT SRTS TA grant to develop a district 5-year SRTS strategic plan
 - SHIP - Jackie and Shel
 - i. SY2425 funding:
 - 1. Finished the trauma training series of all six workshops, with all five cohorts of all district staff, in May
 - 2. Six licensed staff completed additional asynchronous trauma training opportunities in May and June and received a stipend
 - a. Shel is collaborating with one of the teachers at BCS, and possibly one at BCE, for implementation of trauma sensitive mindful movement practices
 - 3. Video project with SHIPMates: Olivia coordinated a video shoot of Shel and Lucy to create four 12 - 20 minute videos which will be loaded on the staff Proserva platform for mandatory asynchronous training at the beginning of every school year
 - ii. SY2526 funding conversation
 - 1. Henn Co SHIP School Health team will provide funding towards the Playworks partnership at BCE in the 2526 SY
 - 2. Proposal to explore possible food insecurity supports within the BCCS - SHIP partnership: Jackie and Shel will schedule a conversation, including Laura, Debbie, Renee, Ben
 - 3. Shel and Jackie will connect with Kelly through the Health@Work team to explore potential funding and projects for employee wellbeing in the 2526 SY
 - Others - Shel
 - i. Medica:
 - 1. Appointment-based wellness services 24-25 data was reviewed using the [annual wellness program report](#) to the school board, presented on 7/14/25
 - 2. 25-26 Employee Experience Event plans
 - 3. Staff workday chair massages

- ii. MDE/CDC: youth voice wellness project update
 - 1. YPAR students conducted a research project in the winter of 25, and developed an action plan in the spring, to implement a student wellness event in October of 2025
 - a. The staff facilitator (Amina) and Shel met and completed the event supplies purchases, funded through the MDE/CDC grant
 - iii. Grow BCCS / outdoor spaces: update
 - 1. Nature play area is being installed at BCE, using funds through a US Forestry grant Trust For Public land received on behalf of BCCS, which will be ADA accessible and ready for use at the start of the school year
 - 2. State Representative Omar has proposed 1.5 mil earmarked funding from the legislature for BCCS Grow BC initiative and outdoor learning / nature access
- District Collaboration and Programming
 - Health Services/ Health Resource Center - Debbie and Madeline
 - i. The school-based clinic expansion grant funds have expired, decreasing the HRC team by 50% at the end of June; two other funding sources are being pursued
 - ii. Madeline reported focusing on immunizations over the summer in preparation for the school year
 - Wellness program strategic plan review and update - Mykella
 - i. [Strategy, program and policy evaluation](#)
 - 1. Discussion: Re-name the program to match the position, as well as align and accurately name the approach of the work: Wellbeing Program instead of Wellness Program
 - a. Also proposed: Collective Wellbeing Program
 - 2. 2025-26: employee wellness programming and PD trainings (including district leadership)
 - 3. Synergy and collaboration: Healing Organization steering committee; Community Schools/ Engagement; C&I; Employee Exp team; Health Services; Wellness program
 - 4. A group of stakeholders are scheduled to meet July 24 to create the implementation plan with the action steps and timeline; any interested stakeholder is welcome to attend (contact Shel)
- Closing: **Next meeting: Thursday, September 18 TIME: 8:30 a.m.**, virtual (Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83425660857>)

Other Program Updates and Notes:

- Presented at the National Community Schools x Family Engagement conference: Caring For Staff = Caring For Students to a [beyond-room-capacity audience](#)



- Completed the [annual program report](#) and presented it to the school board
 - Final “attendance” data for the semi / private employee wellness appointments services: 397 from Jul, 24 - Jun, 25. Two-thirds of the appointments were in the second half of the year (279 vs. 119 in the first half of the year), as “referrals” (word of mouth) continues to expand. Also increased the number of

unique individuals from 24 in Jul - Dec to 51 in Jan - Jun., with only four currently who have not yet engaged in recurring sessions (all of which only had the first session in the spring of the SY).

- Appointments continuing through the summer, averaging 11 sessions per week
- Position adjustment for SY2526: Moved from the 30-hour position, with the appointments paid hourly, to a 40-hour position with the appointments and all other position duties paid at a combined higher annual salary.
- Continued development and creation of “Trust, Communication and Healing Through Coherence and Collaboration” PD training for the Leads team in August
 - Attended the Leads Retreat days and presented the wellness program year-in-review, with a specific focus on the impact and advancement into the work of becoming a healing organization. Also joined the “healing” subcommittee on day 2 for brainstorming opportunities for greater advancements in SY2526.
- Scheduling 25-26 wellness goals meetings with each site and program to plan for staff, student or community focal points
- Coordinating a continuation of the trauma training series for SY2526, for four more 45-minute sessions
 - Completed the recording for the required online trauma training videos for all staff to review at the beginning of each school year
- Collaborating on SY2526 PD training schedules and plans
- 2025 Employee Experience Event planning has started and partner/vendor “save the date” notifications will go out on August 1.
- Collaborated on the creation of a workshop presentation proposal for the Healthy Meals 2026 Summit in October, 2025, in collaboration with the BCCS Healthy Meals Specialist. The workshop will cover the positive impact of cross district departments and teams collaboration on Nutrition Services programs in schools. Notification of acceptance will arrive by the first of August.
- Policy implementation: food in buildings and nutrition services systems conversations with district and site administrators; developing a plan for staff communications
- Multiple grants and management tasks over the past two months:
 - HMI reporting and spend down plan, with sustainability of projects planning
 - MnDOT SRTS year-end reporting and year two planning
 - CDC / MDE Youth Voice Wellness project: product order placement, delivery for the student event in October has happened; invoice for reimbursement is in process for July 15.
 - Centaur Foundation: all product was delivered and in place by the end of the school year
 - SHIP invoicing process completed for 2425, with the 2526 funding still in discussion