Notes from the Lowell Community Relations Council Meeting
Prepared by Lowell School
October 12, 2021, 6:30 pm
By Zoom call

In Attendance

- Wendell Hughes
- Sharon Giles
- Columbus Giles
- Ed Atkins
- Cynthiana Lightfoot
- Jess Tomback (Lowell)
- Erick Mullen (Lowell)
- Chris Ginter (Lowell)

Lowell Update

- **Regarding Lowell's on-campus programs:**
  - Lowell had a successful summer program, operating at about 80% of capacity. Campers were in cohorted groups of 10. All campers and camp staff were tested on-campus for COVID-19 weekly, resulting in 2 positive tests among campers, 0 among camp staff.
  - Faculty returned to campus in late August followed on 9/9 with the return of students.
  - We offer remote learning for students with a documented medical need. At this time all students are learning on campus.
  - COVID vaccinations are required for all eligible students and employees. For the unvaccinated, weekly on-campus testing is required. To date, we have had 0 positive tests.
  - Campus is operating per the reentry plan that was submitted to OSSE.
    - The policies and procedures outlined in the plan are based primarily upon requirements and recommendations provided by OSSE and DC Health, and upon our own experiences on campus last year.
      - Masks and a daily health screening are required for everyone who comes to campus.
      - Grades are being cohorted, (1st grade, comprised of two classrooms, will be considered a single cohort). Unvaccinated cohorts will not be mixing.
      - Weekly testing is required for the unvaccinated.
      - We are maximizing outdoor time, including the use of outdoor classrooms.
      - Carpool drop-off and pick-up times are staggered.
      - Aftercare is cohorted by grade.
  - Lowell did receive extended permission from the zoning administrator to use the Fraser field site as part of our program for the duration of the COVID emergency.
  - Bust transportation has returned with one route on the east side of the park and one on the west side. Approximately 50 students are enrolled.
  - After school athletics has resumed on a limited scale.
  - We are conducting small on-campus admissions tours.

Traffic/Neighborhood Agreement

- Our staggered carpool procedure launched with the beginning of the school year. With communication, human effort, and a bit of new technology we are operating at a standard level of efficiency.
    - Our need for distance has resulted in staggered carpool times for parents and the addition of one 'stop' on campus.
    - Carpool instructions and policies were communicated online during the summer, by email leading up to and after the start of school.
    - Some key rules are printed on the reverse of the carpool cards
- The traffic triangle continues to vex drivers. Those approaching from Kalmia have multiple options for merging onto 17th Street.
- A neighbor received email notification that a new stop sign has been installed at the 17th and Kalmia intersection. None present reported having observed any evidence of the new sign.

Old Business

- Version 2.0 of the removable basketball hoop design group was no improvement. The design team is back at work.

New Business

- No new business was introduced.

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Upcoming dates of interest

Thanksgiving break	November 24-29
Winter break	December 18-January 2
2022-2023 admissions decisions	March 4
STEMFest	March 5
MS Grandguest Day	March 16
PP and PS Grandguest Day	March 18
Spring break	March 18-March 27
Fundraising Fete	April 9

Upcoming meeting dates

- January 11, 2022
- April 12, 2022
- July 12, 2022
- October 11, 2022