

Parent Advisory Group

Thursday, January 21st, 11:30 AM

Question of the Month - What can we do to enhance our portfolio of academic offerings?

There were 20 participants on the call.

Mr. House delivered an update for parents.

- About a 70/30 split between traditional and virtual for next semester. Pre-K-6 is coming back on Monday
- Discussed the thought process behind bringing the younger students back
 - More of our cases are at the secondary level
 - Childcare is more challenging at the elementary level
- We have had many employees indicate that they want to get the vaccine. We hope to become a POD (point of dispensation)
- We are in category 1b, and we're still waiting on our supply
- Formula for supply has to do with county make-up. We are a younger community, and that is working against us as far as vaccine distribution
- Walked through the conversation in the legislature around BEP funding and teacher salary increases
 - We hope to offer a salary increase for our teachers, but it will depend on what the legislature decides to do with our BEP allocations
- We are continuing to watch the data on the spread of the virus in hopes that the rest of our students can come back to school in person soon

Questions?

- How are we going to protect our students?
 - We are seeing a bit of a downward trend in our data, but we're going to continue to keep those measures in place that we had in the first semester. Masks, washing hands, keeping distance
 - School spread has still stayed low

Ms. Robin Burton delivered a presentation about the Education Foundation

- The purpose of the foundation is to support schools and the school system by creating partnerships with our local community leaders and business owners
- We are funded through sponsorships, grants, and other fundraisers along with individual donations
- One of our most popular initiatives is the teacher warehouse. Teachers can come and "shop" for supplies, and they are free to teachers
- We award between \$1,200-\$2,500 in grants to teachers (Great Idea and Big Idea Grants).
 - Around \$45,000 in grants awarded in December
- Partners in Education - Businesses partner with different schools
 - Dairy Queen and Montgomery Central Elementary are partners
 - Nearly \$200,000 in-kind, volunteer, and monetary contributions from Partners in Education
- Other initiatives:

- Academic Awards
- Pass & Go - Partnership with Wyatt Johnson
- Teacher of the Year - Partnership with James Corlew
- Prepped for Success - Partnership with United Way
- CMCSS Recycles - in progress
- During initial COVID-19 closure, we assisted with meal distribution, school supply items, and honoring the graduating class with the yard signs
- During the summer, we purchased sanitizing products, water bottle supplies to schools, 'thank you' back to school breakfast for teachers, and specialty supplies for our special populations students
- City Saver Fundraiser will still happen this year. As of right now it is postponed, and we anticipate it will begin the 2nd week of February. The timeline is still flexible as we await secondary students returning to school
- Next Steps:
 - Marketing and communications plan so that the community knows what we are
 - Supporting students who need more resources
 - Continuing to increase overall program sponsors and buy-in
 - Rewarding academic success
 - Streamline technology for employee giving campaign, grant applications, and tracking for Partners in Education

Questions?

- What are academic awards?
 - For our high school students who maintain a 93 average, and don't have a grade lower than an 85 for any one class
- What supplies were provided for special populations students?
 - Specialty scissors, tweezers for manipulatives, grippers for pencils, various items that are required for therapy
- Is that 93 average for all classes?
 - The lowest grade they can receive is an 85 - the 93 is an overall average

For Ms. Burton's full presentation, please [click here](#).

Dr. Sean Impeartrice delivered a presentation about the District's portfolio of academic offerings.

- College and Career Academies - application starts for 8th graders, interest-based other than the STEM academy
 - School within a school, cohorts of roughly 75 students
 - Business and Finance
 - STEM
 - Plant and Animal Systems
 - Computer Information Technology
 - Health Science
 - Media Arts
 - Criminal Justice
 - Teaching and Learning
- Middle College @ APSU - Rising Juniors
 - Of interest to students who want something different from the traditional high school culture, would prefer a college environment

- Earn college credit in High School
- GPA of 2.85 or Composite 20 ACT
- Transportation needs to be arranged
- Student maturity (good attendance records, etc.)
- TCAT
 - Earn industry certifications while enrolled in high school
 - Hands-on learning experience, for students who have an interest in getting right into the workforce
 - Same school calendar, but different schedule - 10:30-5:30
 - Diesel Powered Equipment Certification
 - HVAC Certifications
 - Industrial Electrical Maintenance
 - Pharmacy Technician
 - Students usually have a little while to go when they finish high school before finalizing their certification, but TCAT has a placement record of about 90%
- Korean Program - Rossview High School
 - Part of a pathway with Austin Peay
- Japanese Program - Clarksville High
 - Part of the business academy, also connects with a pathway in Austin Peay
- Full Immersion at Barksdale
 - High proficiency in two languages
- Moore Magnet
 - STEM-based challenges
 - Interaction with Engineering Design problems
- CMCSS K-12 Virtual
 - Changing requirements from this year to make it a school of choice. Due to the pandemic, we took a different approach this year
 - Students need to have a good academic record, appropriate technology skills
 - High School
 - High school will be streamlined to meet graduation requirements
 - No extracurricular activities
 - May not offer all course offerings
 - Honors diploma opportunities will be available
 - Up to 3 hours daily direct (synchronous) instruction and then asynchronous components they complete independently
 - Middle School
 - Will be much the same as it is now
 - No extracurriculars
 - Bulk of the academic time is in the morning
 - Elementary
 - The only difference for Elementary would be the schedule, and academics would be mainly in the morning
 - Commitment is for 21-22 school year, and any transfer requests depend on space and staffing
 - There is an academic readiness component
 - Students will have to complete assessments and have a learning mentor
- Next Steps:
 - Continue collaboration with Nashville State, Industrial Park Manufacturing

- Middle School CTE pathways
- Study Elementary pathways
- Include K-12 Virtual as a school of choice

Questions?

- How do we provide for our students in the soft skills areas?
 - Some of that is accomplished with effective teaching, but especially through the academy there are chances for students to collaborate on different projects. We offer work ethic distinction
- Can you switch to virtual if you pick traditional in the beginning?
 - There has to be a specific reason, an underlying health condition, etc.
- Say more about Middle College students and what types of students enroll in that program
 - Middle College students tend to be more reserved, they tend to just be kids who are very driven and aren't as motivated by some of the traditional aspects of high school culture (sports, clubs, etc.)
- Are there plans to increase the quality of pre-recorded classes for virtual?
 - We have certainly worked to do that as the semester has started. Next year, it will be much better when we have teachers who are only teaching virtually, because they will be able to focus more on that
- Google classroom - why isn't there a standardization to just one platform?
 - Different platforms align with different content areas. A lot of teachers use Google Classroom generally, and then they supplement with other tools that align to their scope of work. We always want to work to integrate those programs as much as possible
- Is there a plan to use Artificial Intelligence (AI), Virtual Reality (VR), or Quick Response (QR) codes to continue enhancing virtual learning?
 - We do use QR codes some, but as far as AI and VR we see that more in our computer academies. Always interested in innovating where we can

For Dr. Impeartrice's full presentation, please [click here](#).

The next Parent Advisory Committee meeting will be on Thursday, February 18th, at 11:30 AM via Zoom.