

## **Parent Advisory Committee**

*October 21, 2021 11:30 AM*

*Question of the Month: How is the community responding to district messages to attract the public to high-demand jobs?*

**Dr. Huff delivered her update for the group.**

- COVID-19 Numbers Comparison:
  - **September 21**
    - **Student Positives: 223**
    - **Student Exclusions: 1,697**
    - **Employee Positives: 54**
    - **Employee Exclusions: 112**
  - **October 21**
    - **Student Positives: 39**
    - **Student Exclusions: 408**
    - **Employee Positives: 21**
    - **Employee Exclusions: 25**
- No changes to the mask mandate as of the board's vote on September 14th.
- I sit on a call known as Unified Command with county emergency personnel, mayors, etc. and the trend is downward for pretty much everyone.

Questions:

- Are parent volunteers allowed?
  - It will be principal discretion; our instruction team is going to talk to principals about opening back up at their discretion for activities, etc.
- How are you all dealing with the supply chain concerns? I know that lunch has been a topic of conversation in the last several weeks. Is it something that we're going to be able to remain open around? Are we worried that we won't be able to sustain with these issues?
  - Not worried about that at this time - I'm not going to speak to the future because I can't predict the future. We will certainly communicate.
  - As far as lunches go, Norm Brumblay will speak to that momentarily. In some instances, there may be differences between what is being served on the line and what students ultimately choose. We have to approve all substitutions at the Central Office level.
- What is the contact information for someone with the residency pathways?
  - [sean.impeartrice@cmcss.net](mailto:sean.impeartrice@cmcss.net)

**Elizabeth Vincent, Director of Continuous Improvement, delivered a presentation about K-12 School System governance and the responsibility at the federal, state, and local levels.**

- There are interactions in our society between Education, Economics, and Politics; these interactions influence what happens in our classrooms each day.
- There are important differences in the level of responsibility between the federal, state, and local levels, and there are many different actors at each of these levels who have a role in what happens in K-12 Classrooms.
- At the federal level, the President sets a vision for K-12 Education, and Congress passes laws about education. The US Department of Education implements laws that are passed by the legislature, and also creates and implements programs in accordance with the President's vision.
- At the state level, there are many actors who have important roles in K-12 education on a day-to-day basis:
  - The Governor - sets a vision for education in the state. Tennessee has a long history of education-focused governors
  - State Board of Education - sets rules and policies based on laws passed by the legislature. These individuals are appointed by the Governor
  - Legislature - pass laws related to K-12 education
  - State Department of Education - implement laws/rules passed by the legislature and the State Board. Most day-to-day interaction with local school districts
- Local level:
  - Board of Education - approve school board policies, and hire/fire the superintendent
  - Director of Schools - establishes vision for schools in the district, and oversees implementation of board policies and programs
  - Principal - establishes a vision for the school and oversees school programs
  - Teachers and Staff - provide education and support students
  - School-Level Stakeholders - advocate for public education and local schools, and be engaged in the policymaking process. Vote!
- CMCSS engages with state-level lawmakers to set priorities to advance student success and ensure they receive the best education in Tennessee. Our **DRAFT** priorities for this year are below and will be voted on by the Board of Education in the coming weeks.
 

**These are DRAFT priorities:**

  - Protect board-appointed, rather than elected, Directors of Schools
  - Protect local decision making for school calendars
  - Allow fee waivers toward public school tuition for classified staff and current school board members
  - Protect the Professional Educators Collaborative Conferencing Act (PECCA)
  - Reduce testing burdens on grow your own teacher candidates
  - Ensure equitable and adequate funding for students

Questions:

- What does the testing mean for teachers exactly?
  - Our goal is not to take away measurements that allow us to have information about our future teachers, but to figure out what we can add. In other words, what are some things that teacher candidates already do that can show us

whether they are effective future teachers, and can we look at those things as well to determine whether they should be admitted to a program?

- We want to ensure that our grow your own candidates who may, for whatever reason, do not have a readily-available ACT score do not face the added burden of having to take another test in order to be admitted to their preparation program. Is there something else we could use so that barrier does not make it that much more difficult for candidates to get into the teaching profession?
- How does the funding break out for public school systems?
  - I do not have that breakdown right off the top of my head, but our CFO has put together a graph to provide that information - please [CLICK HERE](#) to see this graph.

Mrs. Vincent's full presentation can be found [here](#).

**Mr. Norm Brumblay, Chief Operations Officer, delivered a presentation about the construction of the Kirkwood Middle School and the rezoning that will occur next year as a result. Mr. Brumblay addressed other important topics to parents, such as school lunches and supply chain issues, and the driver shortage:**

- School lunches
  - Some of what has been circulating may have been a reflection of student choices, rather than what was actually offered. Please click here to see two pictures of lunch offerings on the days referenced in some social media posts.
  - We are ahead of it right now, but it's certainly a challenge
    - Not seeing as many options
- Driver Shortage
  - 500 students affected when a driver is missing
  - We have incentives to offer now - sign-on bonus, referral bonus, additional stipend per route
  - We're including teachers as part of that too - they can be trained and receive that stipend too.
  - If you or anyone you know is interested in working with CMCSS
- Addressing school capacity
  - The 40th day of enrollment is usually our highest enrollment, so that's what we use for facilities planning purposes.
  - We're almost 37,769 - we're averaging 677 new students each year
  - We want to address our capacity when buildings are between 90-100% - right now, our average Elementary School capacity is 91%
    - 13 of our schools are above 90%
    - 7 are above 100%
  - We opened another school this year - that helped some.
    - Half of an elementary school is now virtual, and that made a difference
  - Middle and High

- Every single middle school is over 90% capacity. We have 3 that are greater than 100%, some by a lot. 104% average
    - High Schools - Average capacity is 93%. 4 high schools are over 90%, and 2 are over 100%
  - Construction
    - Addition on Oakland - opened in August
    - West Creek Addition - opened in August
    - Kirkwood - 40% complete
      - Joint effort between MoCo, IDB, and CMCSS
      - All of the grading and utilities done - it was pad ready (shovel ready)
    - Will be two stories, similar to West Creek Middle - capacity of 1,200, expandable to 1,500
    - Will be part of a complex - we believe the feeder system is important from Middle to High school
    - Middle school is on track to open in August, High school should be opening for bid next month
- Zoning
  - We haven't built a new school since 2007, but we have added 677 students a year on average.
  - Mr. Brumblay showed the zoning map from the last comprehensive rezoning
  - It will be comprehensive, and there are a lot of moving parts
  - No areas are considered grandfathered, and it will be a process
  - We are going with a 3rd party to support us with this, so they can complete boundary analysis, enrollment analysis,
  - Mr. Brumblay shared the vendor, RSP & Associates, and the timeline:
    - RSP & Associates is a firm that specializes in rezoning and capacity analyses for K-12 School Systems.
    - The Zoning Committee will begin meeting in November, with a proposal going to the Board of Education for initial consideration in December of 2021. From there, the public will have multiple opportunities to review the proposals and offer feedback in January and February before a final recommendation is made to the Board.

Mr. Brumblay's entire presentation can be found [here](#).

#### Questions:

- Will there be awkward possible shifting with a rezoning where you have 8th graders going to a new school for one year, and then another new school for the next year?
  - One of our principles in rezoning is to avoid those kinds of shifts as much as possible.
- How will we know about this information?

- There will be several rounds of communication with families over the course of the rezoning process, and there will be three different opportunities for feedback from the public. There will also be survey opportunities.
- What about open enrollment students?
  - Open enrollment is sort of a different process, and that occurs every year. Students should still be able to apply for their open enrollment school like they would in normal years.
- Can you add bus monitors?
  - It is definitely being considered.
- Do we have google buses anymore?
  - No, but we learned how to do it so that we can do it ourselves.