

Parent Advisory Committee

Thursday, February 15, 2024

Shannon Peacock, Director of Special Populations, came to share about upcoming Parent Engagement Sessions for Special Populations.

- These sessions are informational for any parent who is interested in learning more about the Special Populations team, asking questions, etc.
 - **Dispute Resolution and Options for your Family - Monday, February 26, 11:30-1:00**
- Another event upcoming is a Transition Fair, which will present opportunities available for students with disabilities getting ready to transition to a new grade level (elementary to middle, middle to high, high school to career, etc.). There will also be vendors and community partners available.

Questions

- Are you the person that people would need to reach out to with questions in the middle schools? I'm hearing some parents have concerns about gifted student IEPs.
 - **Michelle Parks** is the Special Populations Coordinator for Middle Schools
 - **Barbara Denhart** is the Lead Coordinator for Gifted Services

There was no slide deck for this portion of the meeting.

Matt Slight, Director of Middle Schools, came to share about the current status of the Code of Conduct review for the 2023-2024 school year.

- Every year we evaluate the Student Code of Conduct, and we have made significant changes in the last three years to address student, parent, and teacher concerns.
- 5,287 reported behavior incidents since August. That keeps administrators busy.
- CMCSS has recognized that behavior is an issue, and we have brought in more resources in the last several years to increase our response to behavior and provide mental health supports.
- We have a team that's been training around the district. I would estimate about 1,000 hours of training have been provided at this point.
- The last few years, we have been prioritizing interventions - not interventions in lieu of consequences, but in addition to consequences.
 - Our CoC has moved from points to categories.
 - Mr. Slight walked through the categories and their consequences:
 - Category 1 - Classroom interventions
 - Category 2 - Office Referral
 - Category 3 - Suspension (ISS or OSS)
 - Category 4 - Remandment to Alternative School
- We sent out a survey in January this year to collect feedback from parents, employees, and other stakeholders regarding the Code of Conduct; it is under review.

Questions

- Are there ways parents could step in and volunteer their time to help with these sorts of things?
 - I love that feedback and idea, of course there are a lot of logistics we would have to navigate with that.
- I got a lot of feedback from a post on this that I put on Facebook. Much of the conversation was about family support. What is the status of the behavior teams in schools? How are we working on that consistency?
 - Our behavior team is training on several things to help administrators and employees understand the differences in our behavior challenges now compared with three years ago and the best ways to respond to them. We are seeing success in that.
- We need to work on consistency. Sometimes it seems like some teachers will impose a consequence for something that other teachers leave alone, so the kids do not have respect for the consequences.
 - As far as consistency, we continue to address that by providing training and guidance to teachers and administrators about the Code of Conduct.
- Parents had a conversation about cell phones, skipping, and other minor offenses that seem like they need stricter consequences. Mr. Slight discussed the difficult balance of reprimanding students for these types of offenses to ensure there are consequences while also ensuring that instruction is not interrupted due to the way students react to things like having a cell phone taken away from them.

If parents have additional questions or feedback, please email matthew.slight@cmcss.net. There was no slide deck for this portion of the meeting.

Norm Brumblay, Chief Operations Officer, and Elizabeth Vincent, Director of Continuous Improvement, delivered an update for parents about the 2024 Elementary Rezoning.

Since Ms. Vincent was delivering a portion of the information, she was not taking notes on the presentation. The entire slide deck can be found by [clicking here](#).

Questions

- I was wondering what the process is to ensure that playgrounds are accessible for wheelchairs? My daughter needs a wheelchair sometimes, and there is not always a clear path for her to access play equipment.
 - If we are aware of situations where a student needs more accessible pathways, we can provide those accommodations.
- I was wondering about early graduation programs - can students in high schools take classes they need in advance? Is that potentially a strategy that could help with capacity?
 - I cannot speak to that, but we can share that question and feedback with our Instruction team in case it's a possibility.