



Commack Middle School

an International Baccalaureate World School



CMS SBMT Meeting Minutes 1/26/21

- Meeting was conducted via ZOOM
- Committee Members in Attendance:
 - Staff: Ms. Càrdenas, Mr. Agovino, Ms. Vaughn, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Patrissi, Ms. Dagastine, Mr. Harris, Ms. Greco, Ms. Schwartz
 - Parents: Mrs. Walsh & Mrs. Fein
- 1. **Review of 12/1/20 minutes:**
 - a. Minutes were accepted and approved unanimously.
- 2. **Building Happenings:**
 - a. **Parent/Teacher Conferences:**
 - After initial greetings, Ms. Càrdenas began discussing Parent/Teacher Conferences and eliciting the parents' and staff's opinions on how smoothly they ran. All agreed they ran fairly smoothly. Mrs. Fein informed the team that she did not feel the need to attend these conferences, because she felt her child's teachers have done such a great job communicating throughout the term. Mrs. Walsh did attend fewer classes than normal but felt they were valuable. She shared one drawback: that being at home, her children were in earshot, which may have limited some questions she would have asked.
 - b. **Clubs:**
 - Ms. Càrdenas shared with the committee the clubs that are currently running:
 - NJHS
 - Student Government
 - Tri-M Music Society
 - Yearbook Club
 - She also informed the committee that nine other clubs were approved to begin in February 2021:
 - Art & Literature Club
 - Best of Buddies
 - Cause 4 Paws
 - Leader's Club
 - Pay it Forward
 - Math Olympiad
 - Political Debate
 - Science Olympiad
 - Yoga/Mindfulness
 - All clubs added will proceed remotely.
 - Clubs will utilize a Google Form to accept invites and for sign-up purposes.
 - No competitive aspects will take place, only opportunities for students to participate and connect.
 - c. **Music Lessons:**
 - In-person music lessons will resume, allowing for social distancing. Mr. Stuckey and the music department staff will coordinate.
 - Students will participate one period, every two weeks, during lunch or ELO periods.
 - d. **Support Staff Videos:**
 - Videos were created by support staff to aid in consecutiveness and emotional support for students. These videos have been shared with all students during homeroom/1st period.

e. **COVID Response:**

- Administration stressed that COVID response by the building and community has been above and beyond. Both staff members and parents have been mindful of safety issues and cooperative in being flexible and helpful to students.

f. **Hybrid Model:**

- Committee parents shared that they were happy with the current hybrid model and that many parents, to their knowledge, are as well. A “class family” was the term used to describe it. They elaborated that time on virtual days allowed students to “keep up,” avoiding most late-night struggles to complete work. While there is a loss of social interaction, some kids have been successful in keeping connected via technology and outside sports/activities.

g. **Focus Groups:**

- An announcement was made by Ms. Càrdenas that Mr. Larson and Dr. Inforna ran focus groups with staff and parents, regarding feedback on our current instructional model, to help us move forward at mid-year.
- Mrs. Walsh noted that the current workload is similar to that of a typical school year. She mentioned that is especially true in the Regent’s classes.

h. **Contact Tracing:**

- Ms. Càrdenas discussed how contact tracing is performed. Administration is fully immersed in the process.
 - i. Exposed/infected staff members and students are questioned regarding who they came in contact with, especially in regard to social distancing and length of time in contact while not masked and/or socially distancing, going back 48 hours.
 - ii. Interviews take place with the student/staff member, with Transportation, class by class, and with those in interaction with the positive person (within six feet, or for ten minutes or more cumulatively). Then teachers are contacted and questioned about student-to-student spacing, classroom ventilation, etc. And finally, it is determined if the staff member or student was in contact with people outside of the classroom.
 - iii. When a close contact is identified, they continue to contact trace and potentially quarantine.
- Positivity rate has been low, but it went up during and after break. While significant, most cases are not related to building exposure. Staff has been helpful in promptly and readily relaying information.
- Mrs. Fein asked “When a student tests positive, when is contact made?” The answer was: “The same day, including weekends.” The moment they identify a case, the communication begins. This has been effective.

○ Ms. Càrdenas asked if there were any questions or concerns. There were no questions or concerns.

○ Meeting was adjourned.