Norwood Public Schools Board of Education Administrative Team Report

DATE: 10/20/20

Respectfully Submitted by Ken Lawrence, Perri Gipner, and Sara Rasmussen

Communication

Improved communication continues to be a high priority for the administrative team. Communication with the public is done as often as possible utilizing a variety of methods including Facebook posts, the school's website, videos and all calls which use text, email and voice.

Ken Lawrence is responsible for communicating with the board keeping them apprised of issues and events related to the school. Sara Rasmussen and Perri Gipner are responsible for most of the communication with staff and students.

Facilities

Heater repairs have been made to get the heaters ready for winter. HEPA filters have been received and are being installed in the ventilation system.

Classroom speaker systems have been ordered for the Middle School classrooms. These systems match the ones in the elementary school. The systems should be installed by mid-November.

The seniors will be painting parking spots in our parking lot. They are submitting their designs to the administration. This will be a great addition to our parking lot.

Finance and Budget

Guidance concerning ESSER and CRS funding from the CARES Act is changing regularly and we are utilizing these funds as much as possible within these "fluid" guidelines. We received \$42,162 in ESSER funds and \$254, 640 in CRS funds. We will spend all of the ESSER funds on PD and labor preparing for online learning. We have spent all but approximately \$27,000 of CRS funds so far. CRS funds were used for cleaning supplies and equipment, technology, evaporative coolers for classrooms and air purifiers for classrooms. CRS funds must be expensed by 31 Dec 2020.

Grants

Amy V. (Literacy coach) was planning on being here 10/15 and 10/16 but had to quarantine due to illness. We will reschedule a time for her to come back and do walkthroughs in teachers' classrooms and continued coaching on next steps for our students.

We received an unsolicited grant from the El Pomar Foundation through the Colorado Assistance Fund for \$1,000 to be used for professional development training or supplies.

Instruction

The elementary teachers are seeing amazing growth in our students around literacy. The instruction they have in place is proving to close gaps students were showing upon returning to school.

Attendance has been an ongoing struggle this quarter. Due to the protocols in place concerning COVID-like symptoms, we have many students out on a 10 day protocol. Teachers have been working hard at keeping these students caught up. We did have a good turnout on count day which will be helpful with reporting.

Legislative

There are three items on the November ballot that can impact public school funding. Colorado Amendment B: Gallagher Amendment Repeal and Property Tax Assessment Rates Measure, Proposition EE: Taxes on Nicotine Products, and Proposition 116: State Income Tax Rate Reduction.

Personnel Development

Elementary teachers and paras participated in a virtual math training on 10/9. This training focused on screening our students in the Bridges math program and implementing interventions to fill gaps they may have. We will do some follow up discussions at our next SSaCC meeting

SWIVL training: Ken and Sara attended a virtual training on SWIVL. SWIVL is a device that allows teachers to record lessons and zoom with students. This device will help teachers tremendously if we are to ever go virtual, If a teacher is quarantined and has to teach from home, or if a student is quarantined. Ken is working hard on getting the devices ready and he will then train them on the device in the near future.

Safety and Security

Beginning in September we began conducting our monthly safety drills as required by law. There were seven months between our last drill in February and our drill in September due to the COVID shutdown. The September drill went well. Everyone did a great job of remembering what they are supposed to do.

Other Items and Staff Reports

Homecoming 2020: It was a mad dash to make homecoming happen for our students. Thank you Kyle Dinsmore for all your hard work in creating a way to have a home football game. Thank you Warren Taylor for leading the student council in a way that has given them voice. Thank you Kelly Sutherlin and Robin Snyder for advocating for our seniors and

supporting them with decorating our halls. Thank you students for advocating for yourselves and coming to the table with flexibility, understanding and great ideas. Thank you parents for your understanding of the changes, supporting your kids during these changes that had to occur and your help with all the decorations. Thank you teachers for participating and creating a space for students to be a part of the festivities.

Homecoming this year will look different but we are all happy so say our athletes will be on the field and our students will be able to enjoy some of the normal homecoming events. The administration, Warren Taylor, Kelly Sutherlin, Jenna Baugh, and Paige Franklin all met with Grace Franklin, from county health, to determine what events we could do safely. This year we were able to have spirit week, he-man volleyball, powderpuff football, a pep assembly, a parade and royalty. The dance and the bonfire will not happen but we will work on making up for this second semester. Although the events had guidelines we had to follow, everyone was willing to do what they had to do in order to bring these experiences to our students.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Elementary teachers are doing conferences with all of their parents via zoom. This will be the week of October 19th. If parents are unable to join via zoom the teachers will make other arrangements to meet with them. Secondary will be meeting via zoom as well.

Teri Williams: The 4000K optical screener is here and screenings are being completed, triaging the most needed first. PCR Covid testing is very successful and we are seeing an increasing number of staff participating. Diane and I are doing our due diligence in calling families if we notice a trend in absenteeism and reaching out to the parents for symptom checking. Skippy Dental clinic was a large success with 20 procedures/check-ups this time around. They even came back to complete filings for students that needed it. Flu shot clinic is the 22nd from 8a-12p open to everyone and provided by the UMC. Flu vaccine will run out as we get closer to actual flu season so don't hesitate to sign up online via the school website. If you would like to know flu activity in your area check out "Flu near you" and sign up. This interactive web service lets individuals report symptoms in real-time: https://flunearyou.org/#!/

Everything is going very smoothly so far and parents have been mindful of keeping their students home when sick.

Rick Willams: Counselor Report

- The seniors have taken their state SAT, the sophomores and juniors have taken their state PSAT, and the freshman will take their State PSAT on 28 October. The 8th graders will also take a non-state PSAT on 27 October.
- The juniors will take the ASVAB (Armed Service Vocational Aptitude Battery) test on 21 October.

- The seniors participated in the Colorado FREE College Application Day on 13 October.
- I conducted a remote FAFSA Night for Norwood, Nucla and Telluride families through True North on 13 October.
- We have had guest lecturers from colleges, trade/tech schools and the military both in person and remotely this semester for junior seminar.
- I have been working with goal setting in all grades 6-11 this quarter.
- We will have an in person mental health therapist at our school through the Center for Mental Health at the end of the month. She will be on campus one day a week.
- We have ongoing mental health support through Tri-County Health, who provides tele-therapy for our students.
- We are working with San Miguel Resource Center again for in person behavioral support for students in grades K-12. They come monthly to work with our students.
- We will have the team from Freedom from Chemical Dependency back again
 this year to provide remote discussions for our students over a three week
 time frame (once weekly) starting on 20 October to discuss the risks
 associated with drug/alcohol use and abuse.

Robbie Bunker: Classroom Celebration

• I encouraged two of the boys in 6th grade PE to learn volleyball. Today during warm up they chose to volley to each other instead of the other activities. I have to say that all of this class participated in helping them and supporting them. Hooray!