Norwood Public Schools Board of Education Administrative Team Report 8-18-20

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

Communication

A community webinar was held August 4th to answer questions from the community. Questions were gathered prior to the webinar and during the webinar. In addition to answering the questions during the webinar a Questions and Answers document was made available on our website and on Facebook.

Maverick Minutes: Episode 1 of the Maverick Minutes video series was released on August 3rd. In the video Ken described the new shared leadership team structure, roles and responsibilities, and how each stakeholder will interact with team members. Episode 2 was released Monday August 17. In this episode Ken discusses reopening and registration.

Facilities

The maintenance staff has been doing an outstanding job with getting the facilities ready to open. New doors are being installed in the kitchen, elementary east entrance and the weightroom to replace doors that were no longer repairable. Heat in the classrooms continues to be a concern. Portable evaporative coolers were installed in all classrooms to help resolve the heat issues. Canopies were purchased to provide outdoor classroom space for teachers who want to take their class outside.

Finance and Budget

Auditors were onsite last Thursday and Friday. CARES Act funding is being used quickly for cleaning supplies, PPE, the evaporative coolers, and technology items. Some funds are being held for use for staff COVID related leave and additional prep time for planning for a switch to online learning.

Grants

The nurse grant was funded so Teri Williams will be onsite 4 days a week.

The playground is finished!

Instruction

The staff officially returned on Tuesday, August 11th. Teaching staff have been collaborating on what reopening will look like in the classroom. They've been setting up their classrooms and brainstorming how to balance safety and instruction. Their efforts have been reflective of their commitment to our students. It cannot be understated the Herculean

efforts they are putting forth to ensure an in-person start on August 24th.

We have approximately 14 students who have chosen to utilize our Norwood Online Education program.

Legislative

The Governor's mask order was extended until Sept. 13th.

Personnel Development

The entire teaching team has opted to use a learning management platform called Agilix BUZZ. They made this decision after careful consideration based on the fact it is the same platform that will be used in the NPS online program and provide students a consistent learning experience. The platform is more robust than Google Classroom and will allow ease of use for parents and students. In order to accomplish this, teachers, in addition to planning for a unique year will be working through demos and tutorials so that they can teach students how to use the platform during the first few weeks of school.

Safety and Security

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) released an update to their school reopening guidance. They included more detailed flow charts on how to handle students and staff exhibiting symptoms of illness.

Other Items and Staff Reports