

Norwood Public Schools Board of Education
Administrative Team Report
April 20, 2021

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

Leadership Transition
<p>We are in communication with Mr. Bittner and beginning transition conversations. The new principal, Adam Truitt, has been selected and preliminary conversations with him have begun. Mr. Truitt will be in Norwood sometime toward the end of the week of April 19 and we are hoping to schedule a brief meeting with him if his schedule allows.</p> <p>Our school leadership team leads (Perri Gipner, Sara Rasmussen, Kim Fischer, Ellen Metrick, Andrya Brantingham and Jessica Johnson) met on April 13th to discuss next steps for PBIS (Proactive Behavior Interventions and Supports), Restorative Practices and MTSS (Multi-tiered Systems of Supports). We are concentrating on the transition for next year and the best way to continue the momentum of all initiatives.</p>
Communication
<p>Our main means of communication with the public continues to be Facebook, our website and the “All Call” system.</p>
Facilities
<p>We are gathering information regarding improvements to our HVAC systems. The CDE is working on developing a grant program specifically for School HVAC improvements and we want to have cost information ready when the grant is released. Grant information is supposed to be coming out from the state soon. We have also been told that ESSER III funds can be used for HVAC improvements which would be a great help in getting long needed improvements to our HVAC systems.</p>
Finance and Budget
<p>We are working on next year’s budget. We will present it to the DAC in April and it will be presented to the board at the May board meeting and adopted at the June board meeting. Our ESSER I application has been approved and we are requesting reimbursement for expended funds.</p> <p>Our ESSER II application has been submitted and we are awaiting approval, after which we will request reimbursement for our expended funds. The ESSER funds are reimbursement funds.</p> <p>Our ESSER III award is \$331,074, $\frac{2}{3}$ of which is authorized and $\frac{1}{3}$ is pending authorization. The application for ESSER III has not opened yet. These funds are available for use through September 30, 2023. We are looking at options for allowable uses for these funds.</p>

Grants

Connecting Colorado Students Grant: We received \$129,540 for the Connecting Colorado Students Grant. This grant will allow us to provide free or reduced rate internet service to students and staff in need. We should have the finalized plan ready in time for the board meeting.

San Miguel Behavior Solutions Panel (Restorative) Grant: Year one of a three year \$50,000 grant (see leadership support team report)

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support: Year five of a five year \$60,000 grant. The CDE Office of Learning Supports has submitted the federal grant to continue funding and hope to have an answer by May of 2020.

Early Literacy Grant: CDE (Colorado Department of Education) is still planning on sending out applications for the next grant cycle in the fall . We are beginning discussions with Amy on how to inform the new administration on the grant process. This grant would be used to continue coaching and professional development.

Instruction

Teacher evaluations are in process.

CMAS testing is underway.

Legislative

There is a lot of discussion and legislation in works regarding restoring cuts to the education budgets and the budget stabilization factor.

Legislation was passed reducing the number of state mandated CMAS tests this year. We are only required to conduct the following CMAS testing this year:

- 3rd, 5th, and 7th Grade English
- 4th, 6th and 8th Grade Math
- 8th Grade Science

Parents can opt-in their students to the non-required set of tests.

Personnel Development

SSaCC (Safe, Supportive and Collaborative Climate) Day April 9th:

*K-5 teachers, and the principals met with Amy to prepare for their early literacy endorsement. This is a new state requirement and it will have to be accomplished by January 2022. The goal is to have all teachers certified before the new administration takes over.

*Kim Fishcher led the staff in a refresher on Restorative Practice and affective language. It was very successful and she was given some very positive feedback of the content and also what teachers are needing to move forward. This information will help the team determine next steps.

Safety and Security

With the majority of our staff now vaccinated, the participation in the weekly COVID rapid testing has diminished, however we are still administering them weekly. We received enough free rapid tests from the state to get us through the end of the school year. We can also use the rapid tests with students (with parental consent) should the need arise. We get results from the rapid test in 15 minutes.

The Norwood Fire Department (NFD) participated in our monthly fire drill in March. NFD personnel were responsible for the classroom by classroom release. In April NFD will again participate by accompanying our security team staff to learn the terminology and methods we use when we go classroom to classroom to evacuate the building.

Other Items and Staff Reports

Students, staff, and administration pulled together at the last minute to make The Prom happen! The date is set for April 24th. Administration and class sponsors met with the juniors and seniors on April 14th to begin planning.

Senior staff sponsors are beginning to work with the senior class to prepare for graduation.

National Honor Society (NHS) will be inducting 9 new members on May 13 at 7 pm. Board members and administration are invited, yet we would like to limit it to just parents this year!