

**Norwood Public Schools Board of Education**  
**Administrative Team Report**  
**March 16, 2021**

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

<b>Leadership Transition</b>
<p>We are in communication with Mr. Bittner and beginning transition conversations.</p> <p>Principal Search: The leadership team and Mr. Bittner have begun to look through principal applications. There are four finalists shared with the hiring committee to look over. We will begin scheduling interviews in the next couple of weeks. Interview questions are finalized. We have requested availability dates from candidates and interview team members so we can schedule the interviews.</p> <p>2021-2022 Draft School Calendar is ready for board approval.</p> <p>Bi-Weekly Administrative Team meetings: The admin team and Rick meet biweekly to discuss end of year planning and preparations for next year. End of year discussion items include testing schedule, school calendar and end of year discussions around schedules for staff and students.</p>
<b>Communication</b>
<p>The <b>Unified Improvement Plan</b> is due on April 15th. The final draft has been shared in the board packet for review.</p>
<b>Facilities</b>
<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.</p>
<b>Finance and Budget</b>
<p>We are working on next year's budget and it will be presented at either the April or May board meeting and adopted at the June board meeting.</p>
<b>Grants</b>
<p><b>Connecting Colorado Students Grant:</b> 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 are working with ClearNetworkx on a plan to get the word out to our families about the available plans.</p>

**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:** A new grant cycle will open next 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.

**Early Literacy Certification:** We have scheduled our times to receive the training needed to get all staff with an elementary teaching license their early literacy certification. This certification requires all k-3 teachers to be endorsed in early literacy by January 2022. This will be completed by May 14th when the teachers take the endorsement test.

**Elementary:** The elementary celebrated their 100th day of face to face learning two weeks ago.

### Legislative

**State Assessment Update:** CMAS (HB21-1161) passed out of the House Education Committee on an 8-1 vote on 3/5/21 providing some relief from CMAS testing. HB 11-1161 summarized:

- Suspends the Science CMAS for Spring 2021
- Suspends Social Studies CMAS for 2021
- Students in grades 3, 5, and 7 will take the ELA CMAS assessment (only)
- Students in grades 4, 6, and 8 will take the Math CMAS assessment (only)
- Parents will have an option to request their child take both ELA and Math assessments but districts will have flexibility on how they offer the second test
- Accountability waived for 2021-2022
- No CMAS scores will be used in educator evaluation for 2021-2022
- Ability for schools and districts to 'on the clock' to appeal their rating even with accountability waived

Not part of the bill but an additional piece of flexibility that was discussed at part of the negotiations:

- Districts will notify families who have chosen remote learning for the school year of the option to come in to take the CMAS for their grade level, but they are NOT required to take the CMAS

- Districts will have similar flexibility when it comes to the administration of make-up tests

The bill will now go to the Appropriations Committee on Monday, 3/8/21 and then will be on the floor of the House. The bill will be in Senate education mid next week.

### **Personnel Development**

Teachers will begin working with Amy V. (literacy coach) will begin working with the elementary teachers to become certified in early literacy. 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.

### **Safety and Security**

We continue weekly COVID testing for staff using a combination of PCR testing (2-day turnaround on results) and rapid testing (15 minute results). We received enough free rapid tests from the state to get us through the end of the school year so we will be doing all rapid testing from now on.

All staff who elected to opt-in for the COVID vaccine have now received their second dose (as of Friday, 3/12). 61% of all staff have received the vaccine and 77% of teaching staff.

### **Other Items and Staff Reports**

#### **Rick Williams:**

Nine out of twelve seniors have been offered admission to 38 colleges and postsecondary programs throughout the United States.

The seniors have earned \$457,400.00 in scholarships and grants thus far.

Jaidyn Platt (11th grade) has made it to the finalist stage for the Chang-Chavkin Scholarship.

Sammi Reed (11th grade) has been selected to attend a Pinhead Internship this summer.