

**CENTRAL PARENT COUNCIL  
COLD SPRING HARBOR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATUS AND RESOLUTION REPORT – FEBRUARY 17, 2022**

**DISTRICT ITEMS**

- 2021-2022 District Goals
  - 2021-2022 District Goals were adopted at the September 14, 2021 Board of Ed meeting. To see the District Goals please refer to the District website.
- Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI)
  - The power point presentation presented at the October BOE meeting is available on the district website.
  - DEI Survey was emailed out to the community on October 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - DEI Stakeholders Task Force Parent Leaders and Parent Stakeholders were identified and selected respectively at the October CPC Meeting.
  - DEI Stakeholders Task Force meetings were held on November 4<sup>th</sup> and November 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - Presentation of initial summary of findings of DEI Survey and the Stakeholders Task Force was presented at November 9<sup>th</sup> BOE meeting. This presentation is available on the District website.
  - Recommendations that resulted from the DEI Task Force were approved by the BOE and have been posted on the District website.

**PARENT ITEMS**

- CSH resident sent in a concern regarding safety measures for transgender and cisgender bathrooms and locker rooms. Resident also forwarded on to CPC the research that they had done for best practices for safety.

*STATUS & RESOLUTION*

- Brought up and addressed at the November 2021 CPC Meeting.
  - Discussed at December 2021 BOE Meeting.
  - All research documents submitted by the Resident have been forwarded to Administration.
- Parent asked what are we doing in the short and long term to address lower than average NYS and AP Test scores. Will the community be engaged in these efforts?

*STATUS & RESOLUTION*

- Discussed and presented at the BOE Working Session on December 7, 2021
- NYS Assessment scores were discussed during the December BOE working sessions. In summary, Administration highlighted the following points:  
Elementary Level:
  - Dip in grade 5 (current grade 6) and grade 7 (current grade 8) scores.

- The District has several procedures in place to monitor students. At the elementary level, universal screeners are given 3x a year (e.g., STAR Reading and STAR Math). Given to all students at the elementary level. This is just one data point that identifies students in need of additional support. This in conjunction with data from NYS assessment, teacher feedback, and any assessments in the classroom.
- Administration is looking to administer the IXL diagnostic arena 4x a year. It suggests skills the student should work on through the adaptive feature.
- Math Academic Intervention Service (AIS) is available once students are identified as needing additional support.

Secondary Level:

- This is the second year that the District has offered the Math Labs that are in place at the Jr./Sr. High. Students attend a second math class every other day for additional support in specific skills that are needed with respect to the current lesson being taught.
  - Year one this was rolled out for grades 7 & 8 as well as Algebra I. Year 2 Algebra II was rolled out.
  - Teachers are receiving profession development to support small group instruction and targeting specific students' needs.
  - Administration is exploring a Study Skills program that would be instituted in the next month or so. It would take place after school or on Saturdays. Details are not available yet as Administration is looking in to this. Students could come to this program to work on math that they are struggling with or anything to do with writing that they are working on.
  - Potential new Summer Program in addition to the one already run by the District.
  - Information regarding Regents and AP Review Sessions to support students will be forthcoming from the Administration as it becomes available.
- A parent expressed their concern that certain topics (i.e., activism, social political topic of climate change and global warming, social justice literature) were part of the elementary level curriculum. Where does civics and America fit in the curriculum?

STATUS & RESOLUTION

- Ms. Gieresch reiterated that specific concerns in the classroom should be addressed directly with the classroom teacher. If it is not addressed escalate it to the building Principal.
- Ms. Libertini broke down by grade the units & standards that are taught with respect to the environment. These details will be posted to the District website.
- Regarding literature with Spanish text, Ms. Gieresch mentioned that the students are studying Spanish at the elementary level and it is appropriate to have this included in the literature that they read and to study many cultures including the Latin culture.
- Ms. Gieresch will follow up with one particular author mentioned, Jason Reynolds.

- Ms. Moser discussed the Workshop Model where students get to choose the books they want to read. Ms. Moser will look in to and confirm that students are not being instructed to read a particular author or material.
- Ms. Moser covered a grade level curriculum breakdown with respect to civics and America.
- Parent Guides are being put together and should be released in the 2022/2023 school year. This will answer questions regarding studies of curriculum.
- Parent expressed concern regarding the organic approach to vocabulary and spelling not being effective.

STATUS & RESOLUTION

- Professional development: District continues to work with Teacher's College consultants to bring more fun and engaging ways in to the classroom to learn and reinforce vocabulary.
  - During reading workshop teachers highlight words. Students are engaged in book clubs with their peers.
- Transparency: Teachers have been asked to find a place in the student's writing notebooks to memorialize new words that they can reflect back on.

- What is your definition of CRT and how does it differ from DEI?

STATUS & RESOLUTION

- A lot of work was done by the Task Force and put in to presentations available on the District website.
- The recommendations with respect to DEI were approved by the BOE in the January meeting. Please refer to those recommendations found on the District website.

- What is your solution to help speech delayed children that have to wear masks even during speech therapy?

STATUS & RESOLUTION

- Clear masks were purchased for both teacher and student for these lessons.
- Regulations allow for short periods of time for student and teacher to be unmasked. This is done on a student-by-student approach.
- Ms. Smith discussed each of these points in further detail.
- A parent inquired about SEL surveys being conducted for prolonged periods of time during classroom time. Who reads the answers and what does the District do with the information? Does it become a part of their student record?

STATUS & RESOLUTION

- Address the concern with the classroom teacher.
- Surveys are not shared outside the classroom or the District with any agency.
- Parents are entitled to see their student's answers.
- It is not part of any permanent record.

- Grade book at the high school level is not being updated. The grades are updated just before the end of the marking period. Can this be a timelier process as it causes undo stress for the student?

STATUS & RESOLUTION

- Mr. Danbusky discussed this concern with the staff, as it was raised in an earlier CPC Meeting. If there are specific papers and tests not coming back to the student reach out to the teacher directly. Elevate to Mr. Danbusky if it is not addressed after that.
- If it is a more widespread issue with multiple teachers for your child set up a meeting with the Guidance Department and the teachers this pertains to.

**PREVIOUS ITEMS**

- Reading lists are off balance.
- Building specific concerns regarding the curriculum, teaching practices, papers and homework are not being graded and returned, premature testing prep for the State Test, lack of homework at the 6<sup>th</sup> grade level.
- Students entering the Jr./Sr. High are not prepared.
- Gender neutral single stall bathrooms in the Jr./Sr. High.
- Covid-19 Guidelines for Parent Volunteers during school hours.
- Delay in starting CSH Basketball League as a result of indoor restrictions.
- Short staffed at the Jr./Sr. High Nest.
- Return of English papers at the Jr./Sr. High in a timely fashion.
- Suggested/required reading list
- Remote learning options for non-quarantined students
- DEI documentation
- Communication Pathways