

## ACE Meeting Minutes

*The purpose of the Advisory Council for Education is to provide a systematic representative public involvement in educational decisions under consideration by the Board of Directors.*

**Nov. 2, 2020**  
**6:00-7:30 p.m.**

### **Members Present**

Ali Amezcua, Sarah Blake, Erika Coghill, Montan Copenhaver, Judy Fay, Kari Henderson-Burke, Stacy Jacobs, Britt Kleinman, Mary Levesque, Anne Mcalvey, Will Nelson, Kari Pendray, Gary Sabol, Chrys Sweeting, Sophie Willis

### **Guests Present**

Brian Lewis

**Call to order:** 6 p.m.

### **Introductions**

Committee members introduced themselves.

### **Approve Minutes**

Sarah Blake made a motion, seconded by Kari Pendray, to approve the Oct. 5 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

### **Reopening Arlington Schools Update and Conversation**

Dr. Sweeting shared the struggles, challenges and victories that the district is facing with reopening schools.

### **Struggles and Challenges**

- COVID-19 Numbers: 125.8, infection rate per 100,000
- Dr. Sweeting showed the committee a health metrics and factors log
- The most recent recommendation from Dr. Spitters is that limited distance learning for K-3 is still recommended. It's discouraged for students in older grades.
- The district has invested in no-touch thermal devices in our schools and buildings.

### **Victories**

On Campus

- 600 Kindergarten and First Graders in Hybrid
- Approx. 127 working via connectivity stations
- Approx. 100 students with special needs
- Looking at sports practice for some sports
- Looking at CTE cohorts one day a week
- Thinking about 2nd and 3rd grades....not sure yet

Kari Henderson-Burke shared about the success of Committed Distance Learning

- 12 teachers, 230 kids in program
- Creating classrooms built on relationships
- Instruction remains sound, teachers are able to access what they need, also physical material distribution

Connectivity Stations

- Decreasing the number of students who need connectivity
- 940 hotspots given out by the district by the end of next week along with connectivity students
- 18% of student body being assisted this way

Chrys mentioned what happens if school has to close for weather, etc. Could every child do distance learning?

Regarding students and staff infections, the infections didn't originate from our schools. They originated from an adult outside the school building. The district has had two COVID-19 positive cases. We've isolated close contacts. There have been seven positives since March

Mask breaks- take them off to eat, plexiglass helps with this,

Attendance- Taking attendance daily, repeating attendance calls at the secondary level

### **School Resource Officer (SRO) Discussion**

Brian Lewis, Executive Director of Operations, shared that the district is working on getting the complaint resolution process in place. The School Board approved the SRO contract for 2020-21. The district continues to make improvements to the program. We work in cooperation with the Arlington Police Department if there are any complaints. Step 5 of the district reopening plan is when the SRO would return to campus. Step 5 is K-12 in hybrid model

Could ACE Develop student survey? Maybe involved high school diversity committee. Also have discussion around social emotional support

### **Equity Conversation**

Will Nelson, Director of Equity and Student Success, shared the following about the equity work in the district.

- An equity committee has formed. There are a couple of students on the equity committee.
- Expanded Cabinet last year viewed the series *RACE- The Power of Illusion*
- Will has also been teaching anti-racism classes in the community

Sarah Blake shared that OSPI has the most recent demographic/achievement/discipline information at this link:

<https://washingtonstatereportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/ReportCard/ViewSchoolOrDistrict/100014>

It's on the "Diversity Report" tab for data.

Montan wanted to know what were some of the equity problems the district has been facing? Diversity of staff, some disparity of number of ELL students that qualify for SPED, disparity in AP and honor classes of



students of color. Dr. Sweeting shared that the district is trying to become more culturally responsive

Ali said the high school has a "See Every Eagle" photo project, making the invisible visible.

**District Updates**

Dr. Sweeting shared what the next steps are for bringing kids on campus

The committee also reviewed the ACE roster.

Mary made a motion, seconded by Montan to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

**Next Meeting, Monday, Dec. 7, 2020**