

May 6th School Council Minutes

Agenda:

- Remote learning -
 - Asking for Parent perspectives on remote learning:
 - It is going very well
 - Like the switch to consistent times
 - Work like IXL is well received.
 - Outside stuff has been a bit harder. Other times it's hard to concentrate when they are not in the classroom. Instead of doing some of the work they do independent stuff to keep them engaged. They are trying to get outside as much as possible. There was an appreciation for the teachers and the administration for how all of this has come together.
 - Great experience, they love how they have a schedule for that time. Previously, they had the same meeting time, but now they have separate times so the parent can look at what the kids are doing. They like all of the extra things that are going into it. They like the office hours because teachers have incorporated games. She likes how the other teachers are very available to help out.
 - It has worked out that they can spend time working with the children after the morning meeting. Some office hours are pushed until the later times so all of the students can get to everything. There is some conflict when you are teaching and also have a school-aged child in the program.
 - The general consensus seems to be the same.
 - We now have focus standards that they want us to adhere to for the rest of the school year. There is an enormity of skills that they want us to cover through the end of the school year.
 - The instructional leadership team is going to go through those skills and decide on mastery/non-mastery to develop bridge units to ensure that the students comprehend the standards. Knowing full well that we will need to build bridges.
 - The FALL--The ever ending question--
 - What does school look like in the fall? Going through several scenarios.
 - Releasing the state May 18th and start opening things May 18th--with out day care and schools not open people may not be able to go back to work.
 - Are we going back with full/50/25 or what kind of population?
 - Kindergarten enrollment
 - We currently have 10 Chatham residents registered for kindergarten (but working off 11) We have 7 School choice students--5 are legacy students. This means one classroom and one kindergarten teacher is going to be moving to Harwich. It reduces our budget but it does not reduce the overall Monomoy Budget.
 - The one class limits us in a lot of ways with separating students.
 - There is a way however, that we can incorporate a multi-age kindergarten classroom. How we populate the classroom is still a question.
 - Some benefits would be the bridging ability within the grade levels with other children mentors and model peers.

- Right now we are focusing on the status quo.
 - Positive feedback on the K/1 multiage. But this time there won't be a choice.
 - Now we have to think of Covid and the possibility of the remote learning in September.
- Budget scenarios
 - As the information comes forward we need to change some of our goals and how the budget is used.
 - Complex -- Chatham Selectmen are meeting this week -- Harwich meeting next week? The general consensus are that any changes that are made are going to be more consistent with the way things are going.
 - Possibilities:
 - Chatham town meeting at the end of June -- operate a budget from the start of July
 - 1/12th budget cuts our budget up to what we had last year and up to 4%. Aka 6% less than what we have now.
 - Real Estate Taxes will be fine but the leisure taxes and other types of taxes will not be doing so well.
 - ELA Curriculum will not be able to be done.
 - If the budget doesn't pass in either town then we can't move forward.
 - Rumors of cuts in budget line items
 - The Federal Government may have to step in to help out. Because we are a regional district we cannot spend into the deficit.
 - Deep learning grant - We have about \$16,000 for the grant. What are we using to bridge the gap to relieve parental involvement. We embedded 3 goals in the grant to involve training in adaptive learning. We are trying to make it as play-based as possible but we still need to create an adaptive way to reach the kids.
 - Anonymous donor would like to provide a laptop to every child.
 - Initial gut is to replenish here and then push out the new ones as they are needed.
 - SIP goals - asking for forgiveness that we may not get through all the goals right away.
 - We will modify those goals to go with the Kaleidoscope grant as needed.

IL's were talking about parent universities for parents on what the roles as parents are for the remote learning model.

The most eminent decision right now is the budget.