

SIC Meeting

November 16, 2020

Sports Updates:

Mr. Duncan – football is still in playoffs. Winter sports have started, tryouts have been completed in some sports. Numbers are up. They are taking Covid precautions – screening, spraying, working on practice schedules and bus seating. Wrestling limits contact between groups by using pods.

Covid Updates:

Ms. Whitesell – Rock Hill Schools website has information posted regularly about the Covid status of the district and for NHS.

Quarantine means student is not sick but has been in the space of a sick individual within 6 feet for over 15 minutes even with mask on. Isolation means student has symptoms. Twenty-four days is a “household quarantine” – 10 days isolation plus an additional 14 days.

Contract tracing is only done when there is a positive student. Students are screened for 14 days from the last exposure to that student.

What can parents do with social distancing to help the school? Parents can help the school by keeping their students home and call nurse if there are symptoms. Physically distancing - don't encourage large gatherings and wear a mask.

Overall Update – Mr. Massey

District is providing cubicals that will be installed soon. Must be strategic in how we place desks in rooms as they take up more space and with larger numbers of students in the classes.

DHEC new regulations with Plexiglas is that students can be 3 feet apart. When outside, students need to be 6 feet apart social distancing.

Question: Is there enough space in the classroom to space students 3 feet apart? There will be guidance forthcoming as to how many desks will be in the classes (Whitsell)

Of the 780 VA students, 65% want to return, 35% do not. We want to give hybrid students an opportunity to look at a schedule change too if they want to move to VA. Any non-response is a desire to remain where they are. Another reminder will be sent out soon.

New flagpoles look great! In the front of E and D buildings. District will provide halo lights to keep flags flying over breaks. We will replace the 2 flags extended on A building. New flag area will be dedicated to alumni of NHS who are currently serving or have retired. Also plan to place a monument there. Landscaping is not finished yet – plan to have help from the ATC in this area. Plan to have the dedication before the close of the school year.

Veteran's Day video – Mr. Honea featured staff who have served. Mr. Bigham plans to work with students who are taking the ASVAB – he is a positive resource.

Celebrating our teachers this week. Trojan Council's idea for staff to participate or dress up in theme days. Thanksgiving meal for teachers on Thursday.

Needs:

Students have been quizzed by teachers if they are wanting to return to hybrid or vice versa.

Is there anything else we can do concerning VA and hybrid? What questions might need to be answered before 2nd semester? Survey has not yet been sent to hybrid parents asking if students want to go VA instead of hybrid.

Is there anything that would sway you from sending students back?

Parent: Likes the hybrid. It is a concern having more students in the classroom for 2nd semester. The first 2 weeks back could be the worst period. Continue the hybrid for the first 2 weeks and then ease everyone into the new model.

Would you like to continue to see a hybrid option? Parent thinks is a good option although not for everyone.

Info taught at one school but not taught at another could hinder a student taught at different schools.

What is the timeline for making a decision about what happens in the Spring?

11/20 is the date set to lock in what the student's plans are. Not all of our students will have NHS teachers. January may be the final lock-in date. Parents and teachers are having some anxiety about increasing numbers. Is there a chance that hybrid would be an option? Yes. There is not a firm view of what high school will look like. Hybrid model has worked well with more responsibility and smaller ratio.

Upcoming:

Dec. 7th freshmen both VA and hybrid will be taking MAPS test.

Dec. 18th is a ½ day, last day before Winter Holiday.

1/4/20 is a teacher work day.

Is there anything that parents can help the school with? If option to speak with school board, teachers are wearing down. The faster the district moves with schedules and when students can come back the better it will be with our schools. Knowing what we will be teaching will ease anxiety. Communicate that teachers have anxiety about going back 5 days. Suggestion was made to ease into the transition.

Referrals are down 90% - going well due to hybrid model.