

APPROVED: 3/22/23 Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 3/22/23 at 8:15am, District Office

Meeting Called to Order: 8:17am

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance:

Present: Kristen Dainty, Maria Barton, Matthew Flusser, Carol Geldof, Kurt Jesman, Marie Johnson, Peggy Kelland, John Lumia

Absent: Andrea Cucci, Michael McFarland, David Seipp

Motion to begin: 8:17am - Mrs. Johnson; Mr. Flusser (1st, 2nd) all in favor

Meeting Minutes: 10/12/22 & 1/11/23 minutes approved. (Mr. Lumia; Mrs. Kelland: 1st, 2nd, all in favor)

2023 Survey: Discussion about increasing survey participation: reminders in WCSD weekly rewind, principal reminders to students & parents, reminders on school TV, offer the survey in Spanish. It was suggested that parents complete one survey per child to ensure accurate data. It was agreed that an important question be added to both surveys about students knowing who they should contact in the school building if they are having personal issues. Survey will be distributed the week before spring break 3/28 to parents and 3/29 to students – available through 4/14/23.

Due to lack of participation in the survey it is not reflecting that there is a majority of students who are happy with what food is served. Food Service is not broken: dumplings are a popular new item as well as tacos, mozzarella sticks, chicken smackers and breakfast for lunch. Lunch is an important part of the students day and it's important to have offerings that the students want to eat or it will end up in the trash.

Food Service Update: It was shared that the Food Service Department has seen a higher participation rate among students. New kitchen equipment is scheduled to be installed during spring break 2023.

Update on Principals Meeting: Mrs. Dainty attended the February principals meeting to share concerns from the Wellness Committee: line flow, timeline for students to eat lunch, food freshness due to wait. Ms. Dainty will follow-up with Principals as the 2023-24 school year begins.

General Discussion: Mr. Flusser shared that there was a concern raised about food choices by the RCK PTA. However, it is known that the majority of parents appreciate that they can better plan knowing that pizza day is Friday, etc. Same menu helps nurses with students that are on a restricted diet. Kitchens are small and too many choices cause longer lines. Kids look forward to knowing that certain items are

APPROVED: 3/22/23 Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes

served on set days. Less choice also helps with the flow of the long line. Some of the schools are finding tangerines or yogurt containers in toilets resulting in overflowing. Principals are aware of this issue. When parents share their concerns the Food Service Department will do its best to accommodate. For example, Gluten free chicken tenders were added to the menu. Parents give useful information but WCSD is bound by vendor contracts. The universal free lunch program was discussed briefly as school districts are waiting for further information from NY State. Ms. Dainty thanked everyone for their continued support of the Wellness Committee.

Motion to Adjourn: 9:32am by Mrs. Johnson; Mrs. Kelland; (1st, 2nd). All in favor.