

10/6/21 Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 10/6/21

Virtual Meeting Called to Order: 8:00am (motion: Mr. Lumia; second: Mrs. Kelland; unanimous)

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes Approved: 1/12/22

Attendance (remote)

Present: Kristen Crandall, Matthew Flusser, Peggy Kelland, John Lumia, Michael McFarland, Brandon Opitz, Robert Rubin, Chrissy Sica

Absent: Keri Cahill, Kurt Jesman, Taegen Miano, David Seipp

Welcome:

Ms. Crandall welcomed committee members to a new year of the WCSD Wellness Committee.

Minutes:

Approval of the 5/19/2021 meeting minutes (motion: Mr. Lumia; second: Mrs. Kelland; Vote: unanimous)

Wellness & Shared Google Drive: Ms. Crandall explained the way that the WCSD Wellness Committee utilizes the google drive due to the sheer volume of the information shared. Ms. Crandall will reach out to those members having technical issues with the Drive

Wellness Committee Information:

Charter: Ms. Crandall explained how this committee does have requirements with New York State (NYS) and the member composition is one of them. No issues were raised with the current charter.

Policy 5404: The Policy and the Wellness Procedures & Standards mirror each other. As such, any changes to the procedures will be compared to the Policy for any possible revisions. Mr. Lumia asked whether the free breakfast and lunch option, currently available, should be included in the Policy. Ms. Crandall advised that this is a single-year option for 2021-2022 and therefore not applicable. Mrs. Kelland asked what level of participation is seen with free meals vs. those as regulated by the free and reduced application process. Mr. Flusser explained that the District is at about 30% participation with Free and Reduced when using the WCSD applications. Currently, free meals are at 45-46% participation district wide.

Wellness Procedures & Standards: This document is available in the google drive for the committee's review and feedback. Please complete this by 10/15/2021. Ms. Crandall's recommendations will be uploaded to the shared google drive as well, by the end of day today.

Wellness Committee Presentation 11/15/2021: The presentation will be updated based on feedback from the committee on the procedures and standards. Mrs. Kelland asked about supply chain problems for food service. Mr. Flusser shared that food and supplies are hard to come by wherein it used to take 1 to 2 weeks to order items--it is as long as 2 months now. Proper planning by the food service team over the summer has allowed for some leeway in this area, but not much. When products are available there are issues with delivery as well as local competition. Staffing shortages within the district also compound the matter. There are no guarantees. Mrs. Kelland confirmed that staffing across the district is an issue. Mr. Lumia asked about participation in the Free meal program being offered at WCSD this school year and that we include this in the presentation. Mr. Flusser shared that the current reimbursement from the federal government is the best reimbursement ever--the Cadillac plan, if you will. However, the WCSD kitchens and serving lines were not built with the intent to feed 60% or more of the enrollment. Currently at 45-46% and they are doing the best they can with the people they have, the food available and the space they can utilize. Additionally, some of the building principals accommodate and help out with student line ups and meal service as they can.

2020-2021 Student Data: This information is available on the Drive for the committee's review. Data will be skewed in comparison to prior years due to the pandemic. However, the data is available for the Committee's review.

Update on WCSD Free Breakfast and Lunch:-Update provided earlier in the meeting.

Open Discussion:

- Mrs. Kelland offered a positive comment from her grandson regarding food at Oak Grove.
- Mr. Opitz thanks for the opportunity to participate from WJHS - very happy intramurals are back and available for students. The added bus run after school is also very helpful for the students who don't have rides home since parents work. Mr. Lumia asked about intramural participation. Mr. Opitz shared basketball is most popular--on after school bus days there are easily 100 students participating. Morning basketball intramurals draws about 80 students. Mrs. Kelland asked if additional after school buses would be helpful. Per Mr. Opitz, the number of chaperone hours is an issue for coverage and opportunity, but they are happy for what they have for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Mr. Lumia asked Mr. Flusser about the John Jay Future Farmers of America (FFA) club and whether there has been any collaboration. Pre-pandemic there was sharing, but nothing in the last 18 months. Mr. Flusser will reach out to collaborate again in the future.

Motion to Adjourn: 8:29am