ACES-WIMS Parent Teacher Advisory Council (PTAC)
Agenda & Minutes

https://www.aces.org/wims

Monday, August 17, 2020
5:30-6:30pm

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time:</th>
<th>Item:</th>
<th>Notes:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:30-5:35</td>
<td>Welcoming Message</td>
<td>Principal Todd Solli</td>
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<td>5:35-5:45</td>
<td>Update regarding Parent</td>
<td>• Over 20 parents have expressed interest in being a Parent Officer for our PTAC. We need a treasurer, secretary and parent representative.</td>
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<td>Officers for PTAC</td>
<td>• Use the Google form if you are interested in being an officer.</td>
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<td>Zach Maher</td>
<td>• Elections will be held in September.</td>
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<td>• Updates can be found in the ACES PTAC link on our webpage.</td>
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<td>5:45-6:30</td>
<td>Information Session for</td>
<td>Principal Todd Solli</td>
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<td>Families</td>
<td>Zach Maher</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Meg Birmingham</td>
<td>• Our reopening plan has been approved by the state and the ACES Governing Board.</td>
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<td>• Still planning on a full reopening (this can change so check ParentSquare for updates)</td>
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<td>• In person learning is normal hours from 8-3:30</td>
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<td>• Families may opt out of in person learning and choose distance learning.</td>
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<td>• Please complete the surveys that have gone out letting us know what you have decided.</td>
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<td>• Sept. 3rd, 4th and 8th - Soft Start Days.</td>
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<td>• Parents will be able to sign up for an appointment to meet with teachers and tour classrooms.</td>
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<td>• This will be in lieu of our usual Hopes and Dreams Conferences.</td>
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There will some evening appointments available

- Students will be assigned to cohorts for in person learnings. Cohorts are basically homerooms. They will stay together.
  - Cohorts will generally remain in their homeroom throughout the day and teachers will do the traveling.
  - Teachers coming in and out of the room will sign in and out for contact tracing.
  - Siblings in the same grade are in the same cohort – this will help with contact tracing

- Transportation is provided by ACES for Hamden, New Haven, Meriden, Waterbury and Wallingford Families.
  - Families in other towns will receive a $5 per day stipend to transport their own child to and from school.
  - ACES will finalize routes and notify you soon.

- We have 3 new teachers for those of you who have been assigned homeroom teachers of TBD
  - Grade 2 – Miss Isberg
  - Grade 5 ELA – Miss Buchino
  - Grade 5 Science – Miss Michaels

- The school has been set up to accommodate social distancing and safety. Pictures at the end of the slide show.
  - Air purifiers in every classroom
  - Exhaust fans are being repaired to exhaust air out of the building
  - Cleaning crews have begun working – they will clean the building every night and possibly support during the day
  - Bathrooms will be cleaned at minimum twice a day
  - High traffic areas will be cleaned throughout the day
Mr. Solli continues to secure PPE (sanitizing wipes, PPE, face shields, etc.)

All students will need to wear a mask – minimum of 3 ply

Mr. Solli is looking into getting plexiglass desk shields

- 3 plans
  - Green – full in person learning
  - Yellow – you have been assigned A cohort or B cohort. Half the school population in school at a time. (2 days per week/per cohort). Siblings should be in the same cohorts. If this is not reflected in the letters you received, please reach out to the school so we can fix it.
  - Red – Full distance learning for everyone
    - Distance learning would be a combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning
    - Homeroom teachers will remain connected to you and your children

*Mr. Solli does not determine green, yellow, red. Dr. Danehy does.

Q&A

How many hours per day of distance learning if you opted for that?
We are waiting to hear back from unions on this, but Mr. Solli is sure this will not be a full day in front of a computer. It will likely be a shortened day with a schedule.

Will the school take children’s temperatures on a daily basis?
No – this is very time consuming. We are counting on parents to be diligent in keeping kids’ home and notifying the school
if children have a temp. They can still do distance learning at home. If a child is found to have a temperature here, the nurse will reach out and the child will be sent home.

**Will children be required to wear a mask all day?**
*Students will need to wear mask. We will have mask breaks including longer recesses that includes mask breaks, lunch, and outdoor learning opportunities where masks can be taken off while socially distancing.*

**Will masks be provided and can we send kids with multiple masks?**
*You can provide masks – 3 ply. No masks with vents, gaiters or bandanas. If a mask is lost, soiled or broken, there will be masks available at school as well.*

**Can you talk a little about the school day in the in person option?**
*Students will stay in their homeroom all day except for outdoor breaks. Lunch will be in classrooms as well. Much of our learning will revolve around social emotional learning to support students in reacclimating to the school community/environment. We will be getting kids outside as much as possible.*

**Can you provide an estimate of how many students will be in each class?**
*As of right now only about 1/3 of parents have returned the survey letting us know if they are opting for in person and distance. Please return them to help us answer this question more accurately. Under normal*
circumstances, classrooms would have up to the mid-20's. We expect that under these circumstances it will likely be in the teens. In the hybrid model, we expect about 10 or fewer students per classroom.

**Can you talk about washing hands? When will students have opportunities to do so?**
There are times scheduled throughout the day for hand washing and restroom breaks and we will have staff monitoring restrooms for additional restroom visits. Restrooms have maximum capacities that account for use of half the facilities to support social distancing.

**Can you tell about how parents can get transportations if they live in a district that does not have a bus?**
Transportation is only provided for Hamden, Meriden, Waterbury, Wallingford and New Haven. North Haven will provide bussing for families who live in New Haven.

**Do you need to do anything to get the reimbursement if you transport your own children?**
No – the secretary keeps track of this, and you will receive it automatically 2 or 3 times per year. It is based on attendance, so you only get it for the days you are present. So, if you do distance learning, you will not receive the reimbursement. If you live in a district that has bussing through ACES, you are not eligible for this.

**Does any of this impact the building grant?**
No – Mr. Solli continues to work on the building renovations grant. We have had to set it back one year due to COVID-19
because the state did not review any applications as a result. We now expect renovations to begin in July 2022. As a bonus, the architects are now considered how to optimize the building should there be a pandemic like this in the future – exhaust fans, natural social distancing

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<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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<td>How will grading work?</td>
<td>We will be returning to normal grading.</td>
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<td>How will address students who are not wearing masks properly?</td>
<td>We will be address in a kind and gentle way – conversations with students</td>
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<td>Can you address what standardized testing might look like this year?</td>
<td>We don’t know. It was cancelled last year. The State of Connecticut has not said whether they will reinstate this year.</td>
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<td>Will outside learning and recess be possible during the winter season?</td>
<td>Some large indoor spaces have been designated to offer some indoor recess areas that allow for social distancing a larger movement. They can be used by one cohort at a time. If it is not too cold, we can always put on coats and go outside to play or take a nature walk.</td>
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<td>What metrics will be used to determine if we are green, yellow or red?</td>
<td>The state has shared metrics that Dr. Danehy will use to make those determinations. It is based on the infection rate in the community and in the state. You</td>
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will get phone blasts letting you know when we are transitioning to a different scenario.

Are after school activities including sports being cancelled or are they being held in the Fall?
The Department of Public Health has stated that we are to hold off on Fall sports. Therefore, WIMS is holding off on athletics for now. We will revisit in the winter or Spring. All other afterschool programming is also on hold including our Right at School after care program.

Can you explain what will happen during soft start days?
You will receive a ParentSquare message to sign up with your child’s teacher(s). You will come in during your scheduled time, sign in and sign out and meet with your child’s teacher. This can be done via teleconference or phone for anyone who is not comfortable coming in. The purpose is to meet teacher, see the room, learn about what learning may look like and ask any questions you may have.

What will PE class look like?
Last year we purchased recess equipment for every classroom. PE teachers will use those materials. They can take kids outside to do this. This way, equipment is shared only within cohorts. The same will be done for art, math manipulatives and literacy materials. They will all be sanitized as well.

Do we have an idea of how many people are opting for distance learning?
| About 1.3 of families have responded to the survey and of that ¼ about 40% have opted for distance learning. |
| What will lunch look like? Lunches will be prepackaged. Students will not be punching in numbers. Café staff will keep a list and mark off kids who take lunch. Breakfast and lunch will be brought to classrooms and distributed. |
| Can you clarify what will happen if someone tests positive in a cohort? In the ACES plan it states that Dr. Danehy will put the entire school in red (distance learning) for a minimum of 14 days. The child will be recommended to get tested. If the child tests negative, Dr. Danehy will decide if we go back yellow or green or stay red for the duration of the 14 days. |

This session was recorded and is shared on our WIMS webpage.

Please fill out your surveys.

The building is open now Monday through Friday from 8-3:30 should you need anything.