

Barrington School Committee
Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Advisory Committee Minutes
Monday, June 15, 2020 10:00 am

VIRTUAL

(These minutes were approved by the SEL Advisory Committee on 10/8/2020)

10:06 Call to Order

10:06 Review Norms-did not review

10:07 Approval of Meeting Minutes from 2.27.20 Minutes approved

10:08 Brief Discussion of concerns and considerations regarding the 2020-21 school year to forward to the Superintendent's Task Force (specific to SEL topics) review of RULER progress during distance learning

- Classroom teachers are still incorporating RULER with distance learning
- Heidi reported Elementary incorporating SEL as much as they could with distance learning and SEL
- Joanne reported High School not doing a lot of RULER, teachers doing a lot of SEL and counselors are individually
- Reach out to parents regarding RULER training to help with distance learning
- HS students were basically doing just the academics that were assigned to them
- Michaela George talked about Phys Ed at the high school, trying to involve SEL in their lessons and also used journal entries. They also used the Believe in You Series(Short inspirational videos, 10 minutes long).. The middle school used Journaling.

10:22 Discussion and vote regarding SEL advisory committee charge for 2020-21, to be forwarded to the School Committee/Central Administration for inclusion in the strategic goals for 2020-21

- **Topics**
- **Use of Technology**-balance life with technology needs
- **Resilience Work**-Tina Darling- defining resilience, how it looks, its ok to fail, its ok to bounce back, how do you explain this to students. Growth Mindset - productive struggle,. Bigger question is how do we teach the parents - and really combat that.
- **Survey work Mental Health Screeners**
- How to check in with Kids- Joanne talked about a mental health screener for every student, would give data on who is struggling
- Heidi -talked about a district that used an individual screener and how they incorporated into RULER
- Heidi spoke about prioritizing the transition back to school. We need to have a strong emphasis on SEL in the beginning
- Joanne talked about not giving out grades for the first 3 weeks
- Tina talked about the transition of switching schools
- Pat talked about the SEL personnel who did a great job of providing some different transition activities with grade 3 and Hampden Meadows
- BHS will have orientation via ZOOM with students and parents

- Jordyn may have some PD training in August for staff on Mental Health First Aid Program
- Erika talked about students are more aware of systemic racism and we need to listen to students voices
- Looking at Policies making sure we don't have systemic bias - anticipating students pushing back against school rules and policies that they don't perceive as fair
- Kristen went over the the concerns from Maura who wasn't in attendance - Maura feels that SEL needs to be on forefront of planning re-entry
- Make student well being a top priority, whether this is a partnership with the JED foundation, Challenge Success or another program, Maura would like to see a larger commitment to change beyond what RULER is providing in the classroom
- Megan joined the re-entry task force, one of the topics that comes up is recognizing that there are challenges to this(distance learning) that we need to be aware of and that there are also opportunities, some are thriving and some are not, how do we bring some of these things back into the school
- Kristen mentioned that some of the social pressures are different for some students and they are thriving with focusing on academics.
- Heidi mentioned that kids aren't able to practice skills they are lacking
- Conversation around hiring - how do we bring these questions about RULER and self care into interviews when we are looking at new teachers to be hired
- Jordyn talked about hands on activities at home- there are times that families don't have supplies or parent engagement
- Kristen discussed UDL(Universal Design for Learning) that has been going on virtually at the HS and they have been pointing out the equity issue

11:02 Brief review of plans for membership in the fall- invitations going out in the fall and it will be discussed next week. A few members would like to move forward with the group. The purpose was to bring fresh ideas and people onto committees.

11:03 No Public Comment

11:04 Meeting Adjourn

The next meeting for the Social Emotional Learning Advisory Committee will be determined at a later date.

All are welcome at our meetings. Individuals requiring any accommodations for Disabilities, please notify Barrington Public Schools at 401-245-5000 (TDD 401-247-3750) not less than 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

