

NEWKIRK HIGH SCHOOL: Safe and Healthy School Committee Meeting

September 29, 2021

Chair: Patty Rowe, Counselor

Members: Steven Brisco-teacher, Diana Vaughan-teacher, Debbie Brazil-teacher Robin Johnson-secretary, Leona Duncan-Cafeteria, Wendy Harrill-parent, Emily Chrisman-Student, Owen Case-student

Meeting Time: 2:20 pm – 2:57 pm

1. **COVID-19** New Return to Learn Plan for 2021-22 year. Was revised according to CDC Guidelines. Only positives with symptoms are required to quarantine. All others are “recommended” to quarantine: positive with no symptoms or contact traced. No mandating of masks.
2. **Human Trafficking** Phone numbers to be placed in bathrooms. Believe they were there last year, but either fell or were removed.
3. **Suicide prevention** Teachers receive annual training through the GCN training module.
4. **School Security** Have doorbell, but camera was removed. Inner doors are unlocked, while outer doors are locked. Melvina (custodian) is usually in the area, or a teacher that is accompanying students unlocks the door. New inside locking mechanisms have been ordered due to staff/faculty keys becoming stuck.
5. **Health / Wellness Committee Policy** Mrs. Johnson provided current “working policy” for review. Members have 2 weeks to send suggestions to Mrs. Johnson. Policy must be updated every 3 years. Next update will be in 2023.
6. Following the 2 weeks, the Wellness Policy will be reviewed and updated. Walking challenge from 2019-20 year was discussed. Members liked the idea of having the challenge again: 60 miles walk/run OR 120 miles biking for a free personal day. Mrs. Johnson will present to Mr. Kempenich. “Newkirk Walk to School Day” will be on Oct. 6th at 7:20 from the Mark Branch Field House. Water & fruit will be provided to the students when they reach the school. A survey will be sent out for suggestions of additional ala carte options to be added as an extra option. Options would be for an ala carte “item of the month”. Last year, we received a \$20K grant for the water bottle refill stations and AED’s. These were installed.
7. **Bullying prevention** The “Stop It” app was brought up last year. Ms. Rowe will check into it for possible use. Owen Case said he has seen posters at PTC about it. Bullying Report Form was reported missing from the current website. Will check into it and have it located on all 3 sites: NHS, NMS, & NES.
8. **Social media** Last year, a PowerPoint about Social Media used by PTC was discussed. Ms. Rowe will call and ask for a copy to show during ICAP. Mention of bringing back law enforcement, and assistant D.A. to talk with students about the consequences and dangers of social media was discussed. All members approved. Last time was 2017-18.
9. **Vaping & Drugs** Mr. Brisco was absent, but suggested Vape Detectors for student bathrooms. He saw these in another school district’s bathroom during a tournament.
10. **Other items** Tornado drills: there are 2 each year. The comment was made that it didn’t look like everyone would fit. Discussed having one of those drills where everyone (students & staff/faculty) in the building goes in and stays. Having a “true” mock tornado drill. Only concern would be exposure due to COVID. This could be a possible future drill when the pandemic is over.