

Community Coffee Recap

March 20, 2019

Pawsitivity Story - The purpose of a Pawsitivity Story is to share something positive. The school is promoting “Pawsitivity” with staff, students and the community.

- Spring is coming!
- Spring brings state testing, Illinois Assessment of Readiness.
- Fifth grade Challenger field trip was amazing.
- Elementary lobby decorations are awesome, thanks to the Beautification Committee.

This Community Coffee was an open discussion:

Dr. Bute noted that some topics/questions could be responded to depending on the nature of the information sought. Others will be researched and responses provided at future coffee's. Dr. Bute's responses, if provided during the coffee, will appear in green.

Testing - MAP and Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) - MAP testing offers the district information on a timely basis. IAR state scores have a multi-month delay. We encourage students to take the tests. The state test is solely for school performance ratings. At this time, the test does not affect funding to the school. The high school bases their placement on a variety of things: staff recommendation, testing, parents, and student choices.

ACE program - How is the ACE program changing next year? Next year there will be changes and enhancements to the program, it may not have the same delivery method as is currently used. There will be one staff member for math and english/language arts based on the current qualified students. There will still be pull-out instruction time for those who qualify and push-in instruction to help more students qualify in the following years. Mrs. Burnidge is the teacher for ACE in the 2019-2020 school year.

- Could ACES start at an earlier grade level? Currently, the ACES program is for 3rd graders and up, a need would have to be identified to implement the program at a younger age.

Classes/Teachers for 2019-2020 school year - The elementary school will have four sections in each grade level for the following year with the exception of 4th grade. The district is anticipating new students will register from the Woodlore subdivision.

- Who is teaching what class/grade level? Ms. Maggiore is sending information in the Panther Press on Friday with updates for the 2019-2020 classrooms/programs offered.
- Can you explain the reason for the change in 1st grade? A first grade section will model an established program with Reading Recovery. Two certified teachers will share a first grade classroom, one teaches in the am and one teaches in the pm. They will also share the Reading Recovery program with all identified first grade students.
- Has the District considered a blended classroom? Typically a blended classroom is based on student numbers. When student numbers are low in multiple grades, some districts may combine grade levels to make one classroom.
- Dr. Bute explained how looping works. A teacher continues with a class through two grade levels and then repeats the same process after the second year. This process can be beneficial to both the teacher and students. It does require a lot of work on the teachers part.
- Co-Curriculars in the Jr. High - The sixth grade students are offered six week sessions for exposure to the co-curriculars. Seventh and eighth grade students have a choice

and efforts are made to accomodate that choice. Spanish is the only foreign language offered at this time.

Calendar for 2019-2020 - The start date for the 2019-2020 school year was approved at the March Board of Education meeting. The first day for teachers is August 19, 2019 and students first day is August 21, 2019. The remainder of the calendar will be set once the state finalizes the school day time.

New Sub System - Why did we switch mid-year? The subs are having issues with the new system. **The old system we used had a major price increase. When searching for a new system, we were promised the new system would work similar to the old system. Dr. Bute is following up with the company to see if we can fix some of the issues that have come up.**

Construction Timeline - The District does understand that issues arise during any renovation project. The Summer 2019 project will actually begin over spring break with smaller projects and the major renovation will begin May 31.

Board of Education Election - The election for District 46 has three seats open with three candidates seeking those seats.

D155 Board of Education - What should we be watching for with the D155 election, since I will have a student at Prairie Ridge? **You could attend D155 Board meetings or follow them on their website. The Principal at Prairie Ridge communicates frequently on Twitter. Dr. Bute recommended parents follow him @SKochPR.**

Channel 7 News - Channel 7 News was at the school yesterday doing a live broadcast on the Solar Technologies vaping and bullying devices installed in the Jr. High. There are ten devices installed which monitor the air quality and decibel levels in the environment and alert administration of a change in that environment so they can attend to the situation.

After school classes for next year - Is the school going to have the same after school offerings next year? The group expressed some concern for one of the classes offered. **This is the first we are hearing of the problems with a class that is offered. We will follow-up on this.**

Woodlore Estates and Impact fees - What is the status on the impact fees for Woodlore Estates? **The City of Crystal Lake has passed an ordinance that cuts the amount we would be able to collect by 50% and requires a school district to produce a report in order to obtain the impact fees.**

Signage - There was discussion on the signage rule changes. **The Village of Prairie Grove has changed the rules for electronic signs. The sign the District would like to have still has a restriction with the new rule, would require a variance.**

Next Community Coffee is April 17, 2019 at noon and 7 p.m.