

**Regional School Unit 19
EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES**

New Supt.'s Office

May 3, 2022

6:30 PM

Members Present: Ryan Parker, Susan Buck, David Cameron, Mark Guzzi, Jess Hawthorne, Robin McNeil, Jennifer Watson, Alyssa Worster

Others Present: Mike Hammer, Angela Brown, Ellen Surprenant, Lori Merrow, Mary Nadeau

I. Public Comment - None

II. KVCAP Annual Report

- Ellen presented on Somerset collaborative with KVCAP.
 - Nicole Chaplin joined remotely. Program director for Preschool KVCAP at Somerset. Hailey Dellarma, teacher, also joined.
 - Data is from last year. See handout for data.
 - 100% of participants demonstrated growth in S/E, language, cognitive, literature and math skills.
 - Teachers are making continual observations which are continually added to their program to measure changes in ability/achievement.
 - At the start of the year, the children are assessed to determine where they are when entering the program, then the activities for the children are built around that assessment and progress can be measured.
 - Also, a focus on building school culture early before students join the k-4 population.
 - Also-family partnership agreement – FPA (uses tool ‘Pathways’) and includes goal setting for families that participate.
 - Health services include on-site dental, lead screenings, vision screenings, and DIAL screening (developmental screening).
 - All information transitions with the child when they enter kindergarten.
 - 37% received special ed services including on-site speech therapy, off-site evaluations, observations, etc.
 - Assessments are in line with state learning standards.

- Special Ed services are provided by CDS (Brewer location)
 - Happens during the school day so there are no extra appointments.
- Enrollment is at 29 this year; maximum enrollment is 32.
- Number is higher for this year and expected to grow.

III. Social Use of Technology by Middle/High School Students – Josh Grant

- School issued devices and networks are not an issue. The network is filtered.
- Many of the problems, there aren't many, are filtered. This is a requirement for state and federal funding for technology.
 - This includes things like "GoGuardian" which allows teachers to set which sites that students can use during a class.
- As far as personal devices/phones, extracurricular activities, that is not the IT department's purview because they are not district devices.
- Sometimes there are things that come up that we don't know about until after it happened.
 - Kids will get on the Wifi and try to use a VPN. Josh and his staff continually try to keep up on those and block those VPN's.
 - Josh has heard from high school kids say they don't use the district's wifi because 'you block all the good stuff'.
- On any device the district owns, all activity can be traced and proven.
- There are lots of kids who cannot take home devices.
 - Josh specifically has what he described as almost an IEP for specific kids.
 - Individual folders for specific kids that require Josh and his staff to build specific agreements for these kids.
- There are also difficult situations for the tech department, for instance, whose responsibility is monitoring activity as soon as school officially ends for the day, etc.
- There has not been any parent education/seminars about how to help parents monitor or learn about this technology/social media.
- Josh mentioned that the state used to put together a presentation for parents of 7-8 graders when the state used to put together all tech needs for those grades.
- Students are supposed to leave their phones in their lockers and can only use during school day if they have permission, which rarely happens because teachers believe they are a distraction.
 - Angela and Mary discussed similar challenges of students continually trying to get around the rules of usage during the school day.

- Mary mentioned that the phone is a tool and it is important for kids to learn how to use this tool appropriately. There is some maturity to it as kids get older and into high school.
- The district has a technology integrator at the elementary school, and part of that involves technology literacy, what do we do at the middle and high school level for training like this?
- Admin team recommends the board members also modify their communication patterns with parents and concerned citizens. They should be calling the school, speaking to the teacher, then the principal and report the issue. Many times a kid is doing something and being sneaky and the school doesn't know but needs to.

IV. Other - None

V. Future Agenda Items

- Briefing from Mrs. Brown and relevant staff on the issues related to new guidance position

VI. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Parker, Committee Chair