

Our Path to First Choice No. 25

Everyone,

Happy Valentine's Day! Here is Path Note No. 25.

Our Path Topic

An area of growing concern in any organization, or at home for that matter, is cybersecurity. As WASD continues to develop technologically, we need to consider our cybersecurity methods and approach. This seems like a good topic to explore the next week or two.

Let's look first at our key organizational characteristics when examining cybersecurity. First, organizational environment. What are our organization's main product and service offerings? We offer teaching and learning, student support services, extracurricular activities and much more. In education, we do offer much technology. We have Access4All at the middle school, and a great deal of technology at the other schools; almost to the point of one to one devices. So, how is technology relative to our success as an organization? Access4All is providing our students with improved communication, better access to educational resources and materials, and an opportunity to gain more technology skills. What mechanisms do we use to deliver our products and services? We use Chromebooks and other technology throughout the District that provides our students with the tools to learn, and our employees to be supported in completing their jobs efficiently and effectively.

Our mission is to educate and empower students for future success. Clearly, our students are gaining more technology skills that will help them develop more skills for their future success. The technology can help students with thinking critically, problem solving, and connecting school to career. A WASD value is the use of emerging technology. So, that is a clear connection to our mission, vision, and values.

Another area of importance is a growing knowledge and skill set of our employees. Our WASD Team must be able to continue to develop our skills in understanding technology use and security. We need to keep up with current issues, software, and trends in cybersecurity to protect our students, staff, and resources. Keeping in tune with our workforce and cybersecurity workforce employee groups and segments and the key drivers that engage them in accomplishing their work, including cybersecurity related work, and in achieving our mission and vision are important areas to consider.

WASD must maintain our major physical and virtual assets, including data, knowledge, devices, systems, facilities, and equipment used. In addition, we need to prioritize for protecting these assets, based on their criticality and value.

Knowing the key laws and regulations relating to cybersecurity in education and the District is also critical. We need to know safety regulations relating to cybersecurity, accreditation, certification, or registration requirements, industry standards and environmental, financial, and product regulations relating to cybersecurity.

As we look at cybersecurity, we must consider our organizational structure, customers and stakeholders, suppliers and partners, competitive environment, strategic context, and performance improvement

system. Over time, these are the areas we must examine and address to develop a world class and secured cyber program.

Review for You

- What are WASD's top two focus points (objectives) for the 2017/18 School Year?

Events

- Reminder—February 19th (Presidents' Day) is now a day in session due to our January 17th snow day.
- A two-hour delay for students on Tuesday, February 20th.
- The Music In Our Schools Concert will be held at the high school on February 22nd at 6:30 PM.

RH Article

- Another Record Herald article is included.

School Board Meeting

- The Board met last night for a meeting that ended about 9:30, and then they went into Executive Session for personnel reasons.
- The Board approved the 2018/19 Calendar. It is also attached.
- The Board approved raising the heat set point from 70 degrees to 71 degrees. It will cost the District about \$6,000 annually for the additional energy usage
**The Board approved a four 10-hour work day for employees working during the summer of 2018. The hours will be in effect from June through July. More information to follow later.

Piece of the Puzzle

- A couple of weeks ago during one of our weather-related delays, Bus #61 was driving on Tomstown Road and arrived upon the scene of a vehicle accident. First responders had not yet arrived on the scene, and the vehicle was smoking with an adult and baby inside. The bus driver used the bus' fire extinguisher and the aide/nurse removed the baby from the smoking vehicle, and the two aides remained on the bus to help supervise the students.

Stan Pawlus (bus driver), Linda Doll (McCleaf aide), Kelsey Stoops (aide with baby), and Brandy Geesaman (aide) of McCleaf Bus Lines, Inc are our Pieces of the Puzzle this week. They went above and beyond to help a community member and her baby. A big, big kudos to them. When you see Stan, Kelsey, Linda, and Brandy, congratulate them!!

Review Answers

- The two top focus points or objectives for WASD were Communication and Relationships. Although both objectives still have a long way to go, we have seen some improvements in these areas. Below are just a few of our accomplishments within the two objectives.
 - Communication
 - Surveying of various stakeholders

- Advisory group meetings of various stakeholders
- Administrative Leadership Meetings (Clayton, Admin Cabinet, Principal Meetings)
- Various email updates to staff.
- School Board Committee Meetings open to the public
- Development of a Communication Team
- Relationships
 - Continuance and Development of community partnerships
 - Advisory meetings
 - Focus on improving communication
 - Focus on improving working conditions

Final Thoughts

Students are at the Heart of what we all do every day. Here are a few thoughts.

- *When the student is ready the teacher shall appear.*—Chinese Proverb
- *A teacher who is attempting to teach without inspiring the pupil with a desire to learn is hammering on cold iron.*—Horace Mann
- *Teaching is the greatest act of optimism.*—Colleen Wilcox
- *I am not a teacher, but an awakener.*—Robert Frost.
- *Between Teacher and Child*—Haim Ginott
 - *I have come to a frightening conclusion,*
 - *I am the decisive element in the classroom.*
 - *It is my personal approach that creates the climate.*
 - *It is my daily mood that makes the weather.*
 - *As a teacher I possess tremendous power to make a child's life miserable or joyous.*
 - *I can be a tool of torture or an instrument of inspiration.*
 - *I can humiliate or humor, hurt or heal.*
 - *In all situations, it is my response that decides whether a crisis will be escalated or de-escalated, and a child is humanized or de-humanized.*

Have a great rest of the week. It is Valentine's Day, and you are all sweethearts!! Take care.
Tod