

D'Evelyn Accountability Committee Meeting
October 13, 2020
DRAFT MINUTES
** meeting held virtually through Google platform

Welcome and Introductions

Opened meeting at 5:31 pm

Approval of September 2020 Minutes

- Approved

Student Council Update

- Student Council is working to schedule a full virtual school event which may include a spirit event, a pep rally, a radio show and/or other live interactive activities.

Principal's Report – Josh Griffin

Celebrations:

- National Blue Ribbon School Award (2020)
 - 4 schools in Colorado
 - 367 nationwide
 - Prestigious honor for D'Evelyn
 - Positive recognitions for the school in 2020:
 - NBRS school award
 - US News & World Report - #1 in Colorado, #42 in US
- Fall Sports
 - D'Evelyn softball
 - 15-1 regular season, 7-1 in conference
 - Qualified for state Final Four, lost to eventual state champions Holy Family
 - Boys Golf - 4 participants in Colorado regional tournament, 1 alternate for state
 - Girls XC - 2nd in league, 3rd in regionals, competing in state this weekend
 - Boys XC - 7th in league, growing team with solid young runners
 - Boys Tennis - league champions, sent numerous individuals/doubles teams to state

Remote/Hybrid Learning:

- Approaching halfway point of the semester, 6-week grades, PTC
- Thank you students, teachers, & parents for feedback on how things are going in remote
- Positives from feedback:
 - Overall smooth start to the year
 - Synchronous learning is an upgrade from asynchronous approach last spring
 - Students/families generally understand teacher expectations and classrooms
 - Confidence in the health/safety precautions
 - 85% of students report a positive experience so far this year
 - Access to teacher, counselor, and admin support has been generally available when needed
 - Good communication from school to families
 - Overall appreciation for student engagement, teacher dedication, family support
- Growth opportunities:
 - Seeking greater face-to-face learning/teaching opportunities
 - Screen time / structured breaks
 - 7th hour placement

- Workload is high for some students
- Distribution of assignments throughout the week varies
- Attendance reporting
- Teacher feedback:
 - Acclimation to the hybrid model has gone better than expected
 - Workload is very high
 - 34% of teachers report doing 3+ hours of work per day outside of the 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM work day; 65% report doing 2+ hours of work per day outside the work day
 - 20.5% report doing over 60 hours of work per week, 63.7% report doing 50+ hours of work per week
 - Reasonable timeframe for communication (24 hour reply within the work week)
- Schedule - we received mixed feedback regarding our schedule planning for 2nd semester
I feel we need to provide more clarity on the rationale for reviewing how our schedule is constructed

Our schedule was designed for this school year to:

- Promote health & safety of all community members
- Maximize student learning

As we've progressed through this year, we have learned the positives & negatives of our current schedule. As an administration, we are considering changes that will maintain health/safety guidelines, and improve student learning.

* Please note - we do not know that we will be in a remote/hybrid model for 2nd semester, but we need to plan for the likely possibility that we will be.

-- Schedule Considerations

What we know/what will change in the bell schedule:

- We do not need a "soft start" in the mornings of a typical day (will maintain a delayed schedule for snowy mornings)
- 7th hour would be better at the end of the day

What we are considering to start in the 2nd semester:

1. Early afternoon end to the school day in the building w/ remote access to Office Hours / support through the end of the school day
 - Rationale:
 - Shortens school day,
 - eliminates school time not focused on learning (reduced passing periods, lunch served after school),
 - minimizes screen time,
 - provides students more efficient time to complete work and get support
 - provides teachers time at the end of the day for more directed student support
 - Provides better structures for teacher individual & collaborative work time
 - Commonly practices in Jeffco HS & in at least 2 MS
2. Transition of hybrid school day rotations:
 - Current:
 - Monday - Green Day (A-K), A Schedule (1-3)
 - Tuesday - Silver Day (L-Z), A Schedule (1-3)

- Wednesday - Green Day (A-K), B Schedule (4-6)
 - Thursday - Silver Day (L-Z), B Schedule (4-6)
- Possible Alternative:
 - Monday - Green Day (A-K), A Schedule (1-3)
 - Tuesday - Green Day (A-K), B Schedule (4-6)
 - Wednesday - Silver Day (L-Z), A Schedule (1-3)
 - Thursday - Silvery Day (L-Z), B Schedule (4-6)
- Background on how we landed on AABB model:
 - Slight teacher preference for AABB in July 2020
 - Opportunity to see students more consistently (every other day rather than 2 out of 5 school days)
 - Classroom set up relief
- Rationale for maintaining AABB model:
 - Change in days of hybrid student attendance is too disruptive
 - AABB model is more applicable to reducing # of individuals quarantined due to a Covid-19 positive case in the school
- Rationale for potential change from AABB to ABAB model:
 - ABAB approach is how block schedules were designed
 - Alternating schedules distributes learning & workload for students over more days
 - Class distributed over the span of more days is a better approach to student learning, particularly in very sequential disciplines
 - Improved distribution of teacher planning time over multiple days
 - Most other Jeffco secondary schools are following this approach

-- 6th Grade:

- Off to a very good start
- Dedicated, caring, knowledgeable teachers
- Conferences were a great opportunity for families/teachers to connect
- We are working on a mid-term survey specific to 6th grade
- Looking forward to the convening of the 6th Grade Success subcommittee:
 - Academic
 - Social
 - Student Experience
 - Logistics
 - Extracurriculars

-- Building Addition:

- New 6th grade wing
- Bond work

Please see link to the AC Principal's Report Presentation as follows:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1TDCUSvIMz-DWGQLnznFsk_aAOvyMFtKuBKBpG5PnFMw/edit?usp=sharing

Steering Committee Update –Jeff London

- Steering Committee Candidate Elections
 - Visit the D'Evelyn Steering Committee page, if interested in becoming a candidate for 2021-2020 school year
 - <https://sites.google.com/view/develynpolicy/home?authuser=0>
 - Election Information 2020
- Election Process, SC-06-R2
- SC Candidate Workshop Trainings (Mandatory)
 - Part 1: November 10th at 6:45-8:30PM, following Accountability Meeting
 - Part 2: TBA in February
- Important Required Dates:
 - Application due date (3rd Tuesday in February)
 - Steering Committee interviews of nominees (before 3rd week in March)
 - Public Candidate forum (April Accountability Committee meeting)
 - Election dates (within 14 days of public Candidate Forum)
 - Steering Committee Planning session (last SC meeting of this academic year)

Sub-Committee Updates – Officers

- Survey & Data (Kym Benfield)
 - Survey sub-committee will be meeting by end-October to discuss purpose, determine stakeholders, and align activities with a schedule for the surveys that are implemented during the 2020-2021 school year.
- 6th Grade Success (Carrie Kollar)
 - Success sub-committee 6th grade parents will be meeting next week to discuss academic & social student logistics, extra-curricular activities, and collect feedback.
- Technology & Remote Learning (Bill Kottenstette)
 - Email has been sent to team members to solicit feedback for sub-committee. Plan to meet once a month, with focus on:
 - Utilizing committee to learn more about remote learning and its impact to the school and students.
 - Review work that has been completed in the past to determine a need for technology or cell phone policy.

Public Commentary

- Donna Li: Requested an update from Steering Committee to the community regarding CU-06, Policy for the Honors Coursework Designation for D 'Evelyn High School.
- Jeff London: Thanked the Accountability Team for their time and commitment to this team.
- Lisa Cushnie: Requested that Accountability Policies be sent to members and officers:
 - SC-02-R2; Accountability Committee – Regulation
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yUWz9GoIgAbNkVm5XaNvNtnb896y3tSvDKwO2j5xym0/edit>
 - SC-02-R3: Accountability Committee Rules of Operation – Regulation
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yUWz9GoIgAbNkVm5XaNvNtnb896y3tSvDKwO2j5xym0/edit>

Meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm

Attendees: Josh Griffin, Carrie Kollar, Bill Kottenstette, Kym Benfield, Greg Kottcamp, Timothy Schmeckpeper, Jeffrey London, Melinda Bochner. Donna Li, Lisa Cushnie, Katherine Battagline, Maria Connor, Laura Sweetman, Cynthia Shelden, Leanne Petrcek, Amanda Gersabeck, Max Sier

NEXT MEETING: November 10, 2020 @ 5:30-6:30 PM – VIRTUAL