

Superintendent's Report
To the
Hampton Board of Education
10/27/21

Written 10/20/21

EastConn Transportation has alerted me that there is a bus driver servicing our Hampton students who has not been vaccinated against Covid 19. She is following the Covid testing procedures and receives her weekly test. Her results are forwarded to the main office of EastConn Transportation which is following all of the CDC and State of Connecticut's mandates for non-vaccinated workers. Since this person serves our students, she is the employee of EastConn.

With the curriculum process well underway, the EastConn professional development staff has met with both Sam and myself and we have laid out exactly what we expect the training of our certified staff to include in their Social Studies PD activities.

The training will include the implementation of the teaching process known as "interweaving" of the specific skills associated with the Social Studies skills based curriculum that is age/grade specific. The specific skills are reviewed with each teacher individually based on their students' ages and accumulated skills. The teachers then discuss the what and how to "weave" those Social Studies skills into their daily lessons even if the lesson is not specifically in Social Studies. At HES, there seldom is a time where a stand alone "Social Studies" lesson is taught. We teach Social Studies skills and these are practiced and n.

Our teachers have started to meet for a full day with the EastConn trainers and they will continue to hold these PD times through-out the first half of the year. We have booked two full days of PD with follow-up advisor/advisee activities during the last half of the year.

All teachers will be evaluated according to our teacher evaluation plan that we approved back in 2018 and was then halted during Covid. We have chosen to reinstate the regular evaluation process rather than wait for the following year as some systems have chosen to do.

On the subject of evaluations, all of our administrators are evaluated every year with goals developed and written and then reviewed by me. We then set-up an evaluation timeline, based on a monthly schedule with two written summative evaluations in December and again in June. The two administrators are the

principal and the Director of Pupil Personnel. In addition, I also evaluate our custodian and our Business Manager twice each year and issue written summaries.

The Connecticut Commissioner of Education has started “Fridays With the Commissioner” Zoom meetings starting at 9:00 am and this runs about 1 hour. It is here that we receive the key information that we need directly from our Commissioner and there is opportunity to ask questions and if any question is not answered, then someone from the CSDE will respond in an email. Beverly Danielson and I have divided up these webinar sessions; I take the Commissioner’s webinar and she attends the CHD’s covid up date weekly sessions.

Although I have not begun to reopen the report card development that I started just before the covid shutdown, we will begin working on this in November. As we all know, the shut down and then the reopening of HES last year placed this important reworking of our report card system in limbo.

Finally, I have to say that I am very pleased with our teaching staff and their total engagement in their students. Team B had to quarantine and out of that negative experience, the students and Ms. Sanchini and Mr. Lord created a video that demonstrated that Team B’s Covid confinement actually led to a fabulous experiences as documented in their video. Team A and Pre-K teachers have put together a whole “Spirt Week” of activities with a different activity each day and the PTO with volunteers helped each team from Team Pre-K to Team C create Team scarecrows and they are all on display right in the r\front of HES.

One extra notice: after our First Selectman asked about the fact that our school flag was not flying, we have directed Mr. Nichols to raise and lower the flag each day. We stopped this tradition during Covid since the students were doing that job each morning and afternoon. Since Covid is still with us, Mr. Nichols will be doing that task.

As is always the case, please email me if there are any issues you would like me to address: folah@hamptonschool.org. I am the last person you should email since the Principal or the Director of Pupil Personnel or the Team leaders are the very first avenue open to you to ask questions or voice praise or concerns about HES.