

Superintendent's Report  
Hampton Board of Education  
May 26,2021

**Covid Changes and Its Impact on HES**

As I write this report, the CDC changed a number of directives, especially in the area of the wearing of masks and social distancing. I want to make very clear to you as members of the Hampton Board of Education, that we have determined that our current covid protocols will remain as that are currently being implemented. There may be one exception to that statement and that is the wearing of face masks during outdoor gym and recess. We are waiting for more clarity from the CDC on this issue.

After a meeting of administration and Mrs. Danielson, RN which was held on May 18, 2021 and after the CT. Department of Public Health's webinar that was held just before this meeting, we have determined the following:

- Masks will be used by all people occupying HES regardless of an individual's current vaccination status since no students attending HES are eligible for a vaccination
- Social distancing will continue as it is currently being implemented in classrooms, passage in hallways, and occupancy on our buses
- Hand sanitizing and washing will continue
- Delivery of breakfast, snacks, and lunches will continue to be brought to each team
- Sanitizing of the building will continue each evening
- HVAC will continue running 24/7
- All school doors will continue to be locked and visitors will be required to pass the Covid questioning and temperature checks
- Student drop-off and pick-up will continue as well as all assigned seating on the buses
- Parents will continue to monitor their children for any covid like symptoms and report that the Mrs. Danielson. Any student displaying those symptoms shall be sent to the nurse's office for evaluation and possible isolation to be pick-up by an adult
- Weekly reporting from the NDDH and the Connecticut DPH will be monitored and summaries of these presentations will continue to be emailed to all staff

- Current traffic pattern to enter and exit the property will remain in place
- Data collection of Covid related information will continue as required for local and state reports

During the same meeting, it was determined that a traditional summer school program will not be offered this summer and that the task of creating a unique summer learning experience will be developed, reviewed and presented to the BoE at their June meeting.

As your superintendent, I am concerned about the possibility of having changes made to our BoE approved budget for the 2021-2022 academic year. We have reduced staff levels, combined grades into multiage Teams, offered a 2% salary increase to non certified staff and one administrator, addressed the 4% insurance costs increases, certified staff salary increases, and the huge increases in oil prices (which have not been fully funded since I did not calculate the oil consumption rate that was required when we implemented the 24/7 running of our HVAC system. This area alone may increase our expenditures by the costs associated with the need to purchase an extra 6,000 gals of oil. The current price for oil stands at \$2.489/gal (5/17/21 Port of New Haven price) or \$14,934 of non-budgeted funds in the 2021-2022 approved budget.

In addition, I am very concerned about the discussions surrounding the cutting of one bus. The most concerning aspect of this type of cut is to place students on a bus for up to a projected total run time of 1.5 hours. Can our young students handle that long a bus ride without having an embarrassing accident with all of the health implications associated with human waste on bus seats?

Mr. Nicholas alerted me the two new building related problems that have surfaced recently. The first was the discovery that wasps have begun to nest inside the gym's interior roof area. We had to call in Terminex to spray the area on a day when no students were present and then hire a company to fill in the open nesting areas with steel wool and choking.

The second problem was that our toilets have rubber rings on the shut off valves for each toilet. These ring are now 30 years old and they all had to be replaced otherwise the toilets once flushed would not turn themselves off from flushing. During this replacement process, it was discovered that

five toilets did not have individual shut offs that would allow for the replacement of the rings. The plumbers will have to return after the close of school and shut down the entire water system to install these five shut-offs.

Finally, the last day of school will remain as June 21, 2021 which is a Monday after we had to use 5 snow days. As of the writing of my report (5/18/21) the plans for our Step-Up Celebration have not been set.

End of report written 5/17/21