

Hampton Elementary School

Monthly Board of Education Update

Principal Report

July 15, 2020

The Importance of Social Emotional Learning When We Return

Throughout the summer, area school administrators have been working with other building leaders on how to create a culture of SEL for staff and students. The overwhelming consensus is that schools that attempt to start the year with something other than social-emotional learning are going to struggle. SEL assist in preparing students for the unknown. It helps to provide students with a positive image of themselves and strengthens their resiliency to change and trauma. Teachers that have personal life experiences that students may not have experienced know the importance of regulating emotions as they navigate the uncharted territory of returning to school during the Covid-19 Pandemic. These personal experience offer empathy and understanding when supporting returning students. As trained SEL educators they recognize the significance of building connections, normalizing routines and becoming familiar with diverse needs. As adults we all can appreciate and that this can mean the difference between failure and success. For many students dealing with stress and/or anxiety the return to school maybe their first opportunity to emotional express some of their losses of connections with friends and peers. They may feel that they are not in control, act out and struggle with transitions that moves too fast.

It's also critical for educators to be aware of their own anxieties and take steps to regulate their emotions. Children look to adults to decide how safe environments and situations are and how much they need to panic or not. So it's especially important for educators to focus on their own self-care.

Many school administrators consider taking care of the emotional needs of our students and staff as the single most important step towards a successful adjustment. Below is a summary from The Learning Policy Institute staff

"The impact of COVID-19 has also given new perspective to what and how we teach in schools, as well as of the conditions that best support student learning. With all its challenges, distance learning has highlighted questions about how to leverage family partnerships and re-envision classrooms around student-centered instruction. The disruption to our schools and daily lives has underscored that resilience, relationships, agency, and emotional security are not

"nice to haves" in education but rather are foundational to learning and productivity.

The pandemic has also called into focus the increasingly global and digital nature of today's society. Our next generation of leaders will need deep levels of self- and social awareness, dynamic relationship-building skills, and thoughtful decision-making that takes into account the impact of our individual behaviors, systemic challenges, and collective action. While SEL alone will not resolve all the needs of our education system, it will be a key component in helping schools and districts prepare students to contribute to the post-COVID-19 world."

Justina Schlund and Roger Weissberg are Director of Field Learning and Chief Knowledge Officer, respectively, of the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL). Roger is also an LPI Senior Fellow.

Below is a site that maps out a plan that I thought others would appreciate.

<https://www.lessonsforSEL.com/post/why-every-school-must-have-a-social-emotional-learning-plan-prior-to-reopening>

Below are the last enrollment numbers for the 2019 – 2020 school year

TEAM CLASSROOM ENROLLMENT 2019-2020

TEAM	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
PreK/K	28	26	27	28	28	29	29	29	29	29	29
Team A	20	20	20	20	19	20	20	20	20	20	20
Team B	20	19	19	19	19	20	20	20	20	20	20
Team C	21	22	23	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24

Enrollment 2019-2020

Grade	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Preschool	11/4	14	16	17	17	18	18	18	18	18	18
Kindergarten	13	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
One	12	12	12	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Two	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	9	9	9
Three	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Four	11	11	11	11	11	12	12	12	12	12	12
Five	10	10	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Six	11	12	12	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13

Out of building	Number	Date
	2	September 11, 2019
	2	October 16, 2019
	2	November 13, 2019
	2	December 11, 2019
	2	January 13, 2020
	2	February 26, 2020
	2	March 10, 2020
	2	April 22, 2020
	2	May 18, 2020
	2	June 16, 2020