Superintendent's Report To the Hampton Board of Education June 23, 2021 Written on 6/17/21

A Complex Jigsaw Puzzle

This superintendent's report reflects the very complete nature of creating a plan for our 2021-2022 academic year because of the forces at play -Covid realities of a school fulled with unvaccinated students, Funding cuts from School Readiness leaving a \$48,000 hole in funds to cover fixed costs to operate our pre-K program, Funding cuts by the Hampton Board of Finance Explosion of costs especially in the area of heating oil and diesel

Here is a description of where your administration's plans for putting this jigsaw puzzle together so we can offer as complete and education experience for all our students AND

Be able to fund this effort.

This report contains some new and we think creative ways to address the issues facing HES, our staff and our students and their parents.

The following concepts been identified as key critical issues that are impacting HES for 2021-2022 academic year:

1. Concept : We have a small student population in our Pre-K and this negatively impacts the costs associated with the Pre-K account (current slots = 16 and current filled slots = 8 / Note: each slot = \$6,000 in grant dollars to off set Pre-K costs of 1 certified teacher and 1 Pre-K paraprofessional which is a total cost of \$120,000) The current estimated School Readiness Grant income = \$48,000 from a total possible grant of \$96,000. Current deficit = \$48,000

2. Concept: Return of a student from out placement will require a reorganization of program offerings in Team A

3. Concept: ESSER iii funding will be used to develop specific organization requirements. This reorganization will focus on the students with learning loss as well as SEL based concerns and will allow ESSER iii funds to address some of our funding issues

The following are the ways we can effectively organize the current TEAM concepts while we address the learning losses in the areas of academic and social/emotional losses due to Covid:

NOTE: Since HES has made its 2020-2021 academic year goal to have

"Every Student, Every Day, for 183 days"

has been fully realized, we have determined that the impact of Covid has most severely impacted our youngest students academically and emotionally; thus, the organizational changes described in this plan for TEAM 2 have focused on the K-grade 2 students. Another set of plans for TEAM B and TEAM C will focus on the development of after school clubs and organizations which can more fully accommodate the grade 3 to 6 students' academic and emotional needs.

Post Covid Plan to Address Learning and Emotional Scares Created By Covid

The current Reopening Plan that we have in place will remain as developed and published on 9/2/20

It needs to noted that at this time, no student at HES will be eligible for any Covid vaccine: therefore, we have chosen to retain all of our 2020 plan since it was so success

WE are currently putting together our ESSER iii Grant funding request. This request will include request for funding of the following:

- Software to daily present individualized curriculum in math and reading to all students
- Improvement of our current HVAC system to allow for the air conditioning of classrooms in TEAM A, B, and & C as well as Pre-K/K
- Funds to continue to sanitize the school each evening
- Funds to have an Acceleration of Learning Teacher assigned to TEAM A and K
- Funds to re-establish a playscape area for outdoor activities for grades 1 to 6
- Funds to establish after school clubs to expand curriculum offerings by offering 45 minutes of extra learning time with possible transportation
- Funds to supply PPE to our school nurse
- Funds to add time to our school counselor's schedule to all for continued Social and Emotional Learning with a focus on our very youngest students Pre-K - 2

Note: This list of funding requests is accurate as on 6/17/21 and may change as the application process moves forward and the requests are reviewed by the HES Reopening Discussion community group - open to any Hampton resident (call the office for a Zoom link)

We also are putting the puzzle pieces together based on the ESSER iii plans cited above and impacted by the cuts made by the members of the Hampton Board of Finance to the approved Board of Education's 2021-2022 budget. In addition, the plan detailed below is also focused on how best to address the learning loses that our youngest have experienced.

The following is the current plan under discussion to modify our current TEAM structure

Plans Impacting Pre-K

The School Readiness Grant for the 2021-2022 academic year has been radically changed from the full funding regardless of the actual student population in attendance.

This past year, parents made different choices concerning sending their children's attendance at Pre-K or K. The Pre-K student population held on average to 8 student or half of the allotted seating paid by the School Readiness Grant.

For this next academic year, the School Readiness Grant will fund only those seats that a student occupies. The School Readiness Grant funds each Pre-K seat at \$6,000 with HES having 16 seats funded IF a child occupies that seat. At the writing of this report, we have 8 Pre-K students registered for a total School Readiness Grant funding of \$48,000. This represents a loss of School Readiness funds of \$48,000 which HES will need to fund since the costs of the Pre-K program remain at an approximate cost for faculty and staff (not general learning supplies) of \$120,000.

This is the section of our puzzle where the pieces are just not coming together very easily and where we need to apply more creative thinking. The next section for TEAM modifications is our current plan to overcome this \$48,000 funding loss.

Plans Impacting TEAM A

a. Organize TEAM A into TEAM A.1 and TEAM A.2.

b. TEAM A.1 will be working with students in K and Gr. 1 (Projected student population of 15)

c. TEAM A.2 will work with Gr. 2 students (Projected student population of 9)

d. TEAM A will have a Team Leader supervising all aspects of addressing student needs

e. TEAM A will have a certified teacher with the responsibility to address the Learning/Emotional Losses suffered by our youngest students and will be known as the : Acceleration of Learning Teacher

f. TEAM A will have access to two classrooms - one double and one regular classroom

g. TEAM A will have three paraprofessionals

h. All TEAM A staff will be PMT certified

i. TEAM A will have direct access to READING/MATH support via SRBI

j. TEAM A will have SEL support through weekly activities developed and delivered by the school counselor

k. TEAM A will have an outside evaluator who's focus will be to evaluate the effectiveness of the management of the accelerated learning process as well as the social and emotional development of the TEAM A students

I. TEAM A will be encouraged and funded to find innovative methods to implement a hands-on approach to learning in the areas of STEM activities as well as technology skill development

Conclusion: Our reopening jigsaw puzzle is complex. There are missing pieces that we have little control over that since the CSDE holds those pieces in their hands and we have BoF cuts to content with.

So in conclusion, to find the funding we need to keep our 2021-2022 budget in balance, we have chosen to use ESSER iii funds to transfer our current Kindergarten teacher into the position of Acceleration of Learning Teacher and to transfer the Kindergarten students into TEAM A as described above.

Teachers are working to address time in a teacher's schedule to focus only on math for every student, everyday, at the same time so we can develop a truly individualized math experience for all students.

This complex jigsaw puzzle is taking shape and still there are whole sections of the puzzle that do not yet have all its pieces in place and a few sections that have missing pieces. We continue to work placing the pieces into their correct positions.