

MS/HS School Board Report November 18, 2020

Professional Development: At our last professional development meeting we focused on Trauma and how it affects the brain. The counseling team presented information about trauma and how to help our students who are experiencing it right now. Staff feedback after the meeting was positive and met the teachers where they are while also giving them the next action steps. We will work during our next whole group PD meeting on generating a list of students of concern and making plans for working with these individual students to help support them. One of our strengths in Reardan is knowing each child and their family as individuals and being able to offer needed supports when necessary. We are hearing more from our families about specific and high level traumas that our students are going through during this time. It is a concern that I have for our staff as Secondary Trauma is a real issue with teachers who are worrying about their students' welfare. I am encouraging staff to take care of themselves and make their own wellness a priority. I am thankful for Eric's leadership on our District Wellness Team and the steps they are taking to make this an issue that our staff feels comfortable talking about and addressing as a team.

Preparing for Remote Learning: As the case count in Lincoln County rises, we are watchful and planning for the possibility of moving to remote learning. Staff are getting emergency plans ready, processing for the long term, and working on which students will need accommodations due to not having internet access. We will survey homeroom students next week to quickly gather data around connectivity and compare that with the data collected this summer. While we are doing all that we can to follow protocols at school, including our after school sports programs, we have no control over social gatherings that have happened outside of school. Halloween and other fall activities, including a non-school related "homecoming dance" will likely lead to more cases in our area. We will do our best to control those things that we can and be prepared to deliver high quality instruction in a remote format.

Student Led Conferences: We will have 100% Google Meet conferences this fall due to COVID concerns in our community. Staff have spent homeroom time preparing students to be able to present their learning goals, challenges, and successes to their parents with teacher support. I have also asked teachers to spend approximately 10 minutes of the conference showing parents how to navigate systems such as Google Classroom, Edgenuity, and Skyward so that they can partner with staff to help support our students. Students brought home sign up sheets this week and homeroom teachers will work to be sure that students are all scheduled between November 20th and 24th.