



Wellness Subcommittee Special Meeting

Monday, October 25, 2021 5:30 PM

Board Meeting Room
Administrative Offices
137 B Glenwood Road
Clinton, CT 06413

Attendance Taken at 5:30 PM.

Catherine Staunton: Present

Erica Gelven: Present

Kimberly Russo: Present

Also present were Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell, Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, Food Service Director Jon Siciliano, and Special Services Director Kimberly Pearce.

1. Opening Exercises

A. Roll call

B. Pledge of Allegiance

All participants stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance

2. Review of Wellness Assessment

Superintendent O'Donnell provided the subcommittee with an overview of the evening's agenda. She then shared the Triennial WellSAT Assessment Report with the subcommittee. This report is the result of the work of administrators and the Wellness Subcommittee in Spring 2021, and is a report that must be submitted to the state and shared with the public on the CPS website. In June 2021, the state granted a 1-year waiver due to the pandemic and the new report is due in June 2022. The subcommittee reviewed and discussed the score report completed last year and the corresponding worksheets. Food Service Director Jon Siciliano answered clarifying questions and provided a brief overview of the current status of the lunch programs at each of the schools in the district. The superintendent stated that the Board would need to complete the WellSAT follow-up by the end of June 2022. The subcommittee agreed that this year, the committee could review and update the district Wellness Policy and revise the assessment based on those efforts prior to the new submission date.

3. Discussion re: Strategic Priorities Related to District Wellness Initiatives

Special Services Director Kimberly Pearce provided the subcommittee with an overview of the DESSA (Deveroux Student Strengths Assessment), which will be used as a universal screener for behavior in grades K-12. She stated that teachers at Joel and Eliot have been trained to administer the assessment and that students at The Morgan School would self-assess. She shared that the information would be made available to teachers to help them plan for addressing students' social and emotional wellness. This is a state pilot program that Clinton was chosen to participate in and will become part of the overall district planning to support the social-emotional needs of students and to create articulated programming and curriculum to address the needs of our students.

4. General Discussion

Superintendent O'Donnell discussed the need for the Board to consider the placement of Social and Emotional Wellness as a central topic of the district's next strategic plan. She also spoke of the creation of a superintendent's student advisory board at the high school. The students would provide students' perspectives to influence and assist in developing the district's approach and supports for student wellness.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted by M. O'Donnell