



THE JOSEPH SEARS SCHOOL

Kenilworth School District No. 38 Board of Education

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION KENILWORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 38, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS DECEMBER 18, 2019

The Education Committee of the Board of Education of Kenilworth School District No. 38, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 18th day of December 2019, at 1:00 p.m. in the Faculty Hall Conference Room of The Joseph Sears School, 542 Abbotsford Road, Kenilworth, Illinois.

Dr. Lisa Metzger-Mugg called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m. The following Board members were present: Mr. Evan Lukasik and Mrs. Suzanne Nelson. Also present: Dr. Lisa Leali, Chief Education Officer. Dr. Carrie De La Cruz, Interim Student Services Administrator joined the meeting at 2:09 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of Strategic Topic: Social/Emotional Learning

Dr. Lisa Leali presented the work that the Sears School has been doing on Social Emotional Learning (SEL) since summer of 2019. The presentation included an overview of the standards being addressed for this year, the modes of instruction (Mindful Mornings, Mindful Minutes and Movement Minutes), the materials, resources and programs being utilized in order to support the SEL work and the assessments being implemented in order to ensure that we are reaching our goals as a school.

The presentation concluded with a video in which students were being interviewed on their thoughts about Social Emotional Learning at Sears this year.

During and after the presentation, there were questions regarding:

1. Transition plans will be in place to ensure that the SEL programming continues with a new administrative team coming into Sears in July - Dr. Leali assured the Ed. Committee that the SEL Committee will be meeting in June in order to review how the programming went this year, make an outline for next year's lessons and activities and communicate to staff.
2. The connection between Joseph Sears School Parent Volunteer Association (JSSPVA) and initiatives like SEL - It was discussed that the method of previewing presentations like the one given today with the JSSPVA is a great way to include more stakeholders in these types of initiatives. There was a lot of positive feedback when the Student



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Achievement and Growth presentation was given to the JSSPVA earlier in the school year.

3. Scheduling and how we determine how much time is spent on SEL during the week – Dr. Leali indicated that the Mindful Mornings are the Tier 1 SEL programming for the Junior High and that each elementary classroom has at least 30 minutes per week in which to support SEL outside of the Mindful Mornings.
4. Whether the Mindful Mornings can be photographed or video recorded and sent out in Sears to Home – Dr. Leali indicated that we will check photo permissions and do this when we can.
5. The composition of the SEL committee – Dr. Leali talked about each grade band being represented on the committee in the summer (JK-2, 3-5 and 6-8) as well as, related arts, however throughout the year we have added members in order to increase communication.
6. Whether we could also video record our Second Cup of Coffee series– Dr. Leali discussed that this is the format we will use for this year.
7. If we could survey stakeholders in the spring about the SEL and Second Cup of Coffee events – Dr. Leali indicated that there will be a final survey for stakeholders regarding SEL, and that we survey parents on the Climate survey on Second Cup of Coffees.
8. If we have really defined personalized learning versus differentiated instruction – Dr. Leali talked about the work that began this winter by having a lunch and learn session on unpacking our Mission Statement with teachers and that will have to continue into the new school year.

Legislative Update: Seclusion & Restraint

Dr. De La Cruz presented briefly an update on the Emergency Rules the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has put into place on Isolated Time Outs and Physical Restraint. She indicated that:

1. In Illinois' emergency regulations, a physical restraint is defined as “holding a student or otherwise restricting the student’s movements” and includes only the use of specific, planned techniques. Physical restraint shall not impair a student’s ability to breathe or speak normally and does not include prone or supine physical restraint, except if all criteria specified in the regulations are met. 23 IAC 1.285(b), as amended at 43 Ill. Reg. 14316 (eff. 11-20-19) and 43 Ill. Reg. 14949 (eff. 12- 4-19). Both the federal and State definitions describe physical restraint as consisting of planned holds or techniques to prevent a student’s movement (e.g., immobilization of the head, arms, legs, and/or torso) which is only allowable in the event he or she presents an imminent threat to the safety of self or others.
2. Under Illinois' emergency regulations, “restraint” does *not* include “momentary periods of physical restriction by direct person-to-person contact, without the aid of material or mechanical devices, accomplished with limited force and designed to:
 - prevent a student from completing an act that would result in potential physical harm to himself, herself, or another or damage to property; or
 - remove a disruptive student who is unwilling to leave the area.”



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Therefore, according to Illinois' emergency regulations, physical escort as defined in the US Department of Education's *Restraint and Seclusion: Resource Document* would not constitute a physical restraint.

3. We have not had incidents of either Isolated Time Out or Physical Restraint at Sears this year.
4. We will need to, along with the rest of the school districts in Illinois, report more frequently on these issues.
5. We will need to report in more detail utilizing the ISBE form for documentation.
6. NSSD is reporting on these issues for our students.
7. We have reviewed our records from the past, as well, and have not found any reports.
8. The new Crisis Team is meeting in January to make a plan for students in danger to themselves or others that is in alignment with the new emergency rules
9. The new Crisis Team has been training in CPI (Crisis Prevention Institute) or received refresher training if they were dur for that.
10. The emergency rules and changes to the regulations were in response to school districts utilizing isolated time outs and physical restraint for disciplinary reasons.
11. The CPI training emphasizes de-escalation techniques in order to be able to avoid the use of time outs or physical restraint.

During or after the presentation, the following questions were addressed:

1. What exactly does physical restraint mean? Physical restraint means that a trained staff member would be preventing a student from hurting himself or another student by physically restricting his movement for a prolonged amount of time. Physical restraint is not momentary hands-on redirection or blocking a student from causing harm.
2. Are our teachers trained? Dr. De La Cruz emphasized that we have trained our Crisis Team and we will continue to do that annually and train other staff members as needed.
3. What is our parent communication around this? This is not something that we have fully organized yet as we are still doing our best to ensure our own compliance with the new guidelines.
4. There will be a PRESS policy sent to Andrew Stone and John Gottschall and the BOE Policy Committee.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Metzger-Mugg entertained a motion to adjourn.



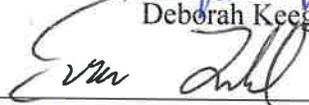
Mrs. Suzanne Nelson moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 p.m. Mr. Evan Lukasik seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

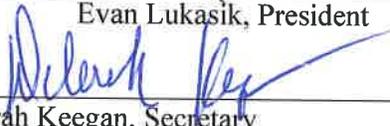
Attest for Distribution:


Deborah Keegan, Secretary

Approved:


Evan Lukasik, President

ATTEST:


Deborah Keegan, Secretary