

ELPS District School Council Minutes  
December 2, 2022  
Noon  
Held in person and via Zoom

In attendance: Natalie Bertoia, Meg Drouare, Tana Hemsley, Angela Michael, Rhiannon Worgess-Carveth, Lindsey Young

Called to order at 12:02

Mental Health Advisory Committee – Lindsey Young

- Implementing and rebooting the district social emotional curriculum. Middle and high school are starting implementation of Trails to Wellness. Elementary is continuing Second Step, but is using an online program, rather than paper books. The online program has easier access, is more diversity friendly and allows tracking of progress.
- The mental health response group responds after incident or crisis in the schools, and includes social workers and counselors. It was used when the middle school closed, but can also be used to send emails of support to staff or can be in person to have more staff available as needed.
- Some district staff are using professional development learning days to learn how to support social emotional health for themselves and their students.
- A Wellness newsletter goes out every 2 months to provide families with resources, including community resources and a spreadsheet of Lansing area mental health practitioners accepting new clients. The most current newsletter included tips for supporting families during winter break.
- All schools have a full time social worker this year. High school and middle school both have a general ed social worker and a special ed social worker.
- District is coordinating a winter gear drive to support students being able to get to school warm. Also a gift card drive to provide gift cards to families during winter break, when they may need more support.
- Question – Do all teachers district wide participate in Second Step, etc? Answer – Yes, it is a 20 lesson curriculum that is taught district-wide, so all elementary students are getting the same lesson, regardless of which building they attend. Trails of Wellness is a 6-8 and 9-12 curriculum, there is a group of teachers who teach those lessons, and they are working to build that program. Two 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers are using it at the middle school and counselors/social workers are teaching the program at the high school.
- Question – Do teachers give pushback on having to find time for social emotion learning? Answer – It depends on the grade level. The elementary level has gotten on board quickly because there aren't big chunks of time required to do the lessons. There haven't been any elementary staff not doing these lessons. It is more complicated at the middle school and high school, as there is more curriculum and content to work around. Working on how and when to implement in school days. Two 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers were willing to teach these so all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are getting Trails of Wellness lessons this year. At the high school more teachers and counselors are being trained to get the program into more classrooms.

November Minutes Approved at 12:22; motioned by Angela, seconded by Meg

Building Updates:

- High School – high school council is having a potluck on Tuesday 12/13 at 6:00 in the HUB, all DSC members invited.

- Middle School – Band and choir concerts upcoming. More clubs are still being formed, always looking for parents to help with those. A parent asked if parents can volunteer to assist at school drop off, as there is not much adult presence in the mornings.
- Green –Penguin Patch mini fundraiser coming up, with knickknacks students can buy as holiday gifts for their family. Planning a whole school celebration with NCG popcorn the Friday before winter break.
- Glencairn – Math Night had a good turnout, almost 200 people. Planning Science Night in February. Book Fair before break. Working on a snack drive for parents to donate to teachers. Doing a hot cocoa and coffee bar teacher appreciation event, with parent donations of baked goods. Looking into a Movie Night. Trying to figure out how to increase meeting attendance. Shared info about gaga ball pit – should be on cement.
- Marble – Created the shared spreadsheet where we can each include what resources we have to share. Book Fair next week before break, and working on planning spring events. 4<sup>th</sup> graders presented at a meeting with a budget to have a fundraiser for a gaga ball pit. Great idea having kids present their ideas at meetings as that also pulls in their family members.
- Red Cedar – no update available.
- Whitehills – no update available.
- Donley – Book fair has been this week and going well so far. Planning a whole school PBIS rewards celebration for the Friday before winter break – this month students were working on lunchroom behavior. Planning spring events and trying to pull in more attendance as well.

Next Meeting 1/6

Adjourned 12:49

Building Reps:

Donley	Rhiannon Worgess-Carveth
Glencairn	Natalie Bertoia
Green	Meghan Drouare
Marble	Tana Hemsley
Red Cedar	Linden Brown-Wren
Whitehills	Sara Cunningham
MacDonald	Meghan Drouare
High School	Angela Michael