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Board Notes October 14, 2021

1 message

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Thu, Oct 14, 2021 at 9:29 PM

Hello Warren County R-III Families,

Below is information from the October 14, 2021 Warren County R-III School Board meeting.

Retirement

Please join me in congratulating our assistant superintendent, Dr. Aaron Jones, on his retirement at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Dr. Jones, thank you for your many years of service to the Warren County R-III school district.



New Hires

Congratulations and welcome to Shauna Freidel, Christopher Becker as a permanent substitute teachers, Lindsay Bradshaw as a school nurse, Austin Davis as a district technician, Kailyn O'Brien as a paraprofessional, and Michael McWilliams, Scott Clark, Austyn Benoist, and Kyle Shramek as custodians.

Recognitions

Operation Backpack was recognized for their outstanding work keeping children fed on the weekends. Thank you Operation Backpack for all you do!



Superintendents Reports

Superintendent, Dr. Gregg Klingensmith gave a report on the career/technical education program evaluation and the monthly finance report. You can see all the program evaluations on BoardDocs. [Here is a direct link to the meeting.](#)

Contracts and Agreements

A contract was approved with Edgenuity to provide the instructor for a MOCAP course as required by state law. This contract can be viewed on BoardDocs. [Here is a direct link to the meeting.](#)

Old Business

COVID Protocols:

The board of education approved the "test to stay" program and removed the threshold for a mask mandate. "Test to stay" allows close contacts identified in a school setting to stay at school as long as they test negative for COVID-19. Prior to any testing, parental permission must be given. Once parental permission is gained, students will be tested on the day they are identified as a close contact then 2 more additional times within the first 7 days of being in contact with a positive case. If a student participates in the "test to stay" program they will be required to wear a mask in school for 14 days since the last contact of the positive case. Students participating in "test to stay" and are involved with activities will be required to be tested on the day of an event, even on weekend events. At home COVID-19 tests will not be accepted. COVID-19 testing from another medical provider will be accepted. The only time a student will need to quarantine is if they test positive or if parents chose to not have their child participate in the "test to stay" program. If a parent chooses to not have their child in the "test to stay" program the student will have to quarantine for 10 days when the student is identified as a close contact to a positive COVID-19 individual.

"Test to stay" is not allowed for students identified as a close contact due to a household member testing positive. "Test to stay" is also not available for Pre-K students.

Test to stay will allow healthy students to stay at school and identify sick students who need to stay at home without the mask mandate. The board of education has removed any threshold for the district to put a mask mandate in place in the future. Communication will still go out for every case in the district and the COVID

Dashboard will continue to report the number of cases at each school. Students are still encouraged to wear a mask, but the district will not be enforcing mask wearing. The full COVID-19 Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan will be updated shortly and can be found on the district website.

COVID Leave:

COVID leave for staff was extended until the end of the semester without any changes.

Policy Approvals

Administrative Procedures GCBC-AP1 and GDBC-AP1 were approved. These policies align the health care look back period for staff to the district's fiscal year.

All old business can be viewed on BoardDocs. [Here is a direct link to the meeting.](#)

New Business

Bond Refinancing

The board of education approved the refinancing of \$5,250,000 of general obligation bonds. The refinancing will save the district between \$550,000 and \$740,000 or more depending on the rates on the day of refinancing.

Football Field and Track

The board of education approved the installation of new turf for the football field and the respraying of the track for a total of \$622,000. These funds are budgeted funds from the capital projects fund. The new turf will be installed at the conclusion of football season. The respraying of the track will occur after track season because the outside temperature needs to be warmer than it will be in the winter.

Teacher Retention Grant

The district has been awarded \$112,000 for teacher retention from the state. The board approved a plan to pay teachers an additional one time stipend for mastering the district's learning management system (Canvas or Google Classroom). Teachers will be required to pass an assessment then will receive \$400 for passing the assessment. On April 1st, all remaining funds will be divided amongst the teachers who passed the assessment and distributed to them at that time. The district has 243 staff members eligible for this stipend.

Additional Nursing Staff

The school district has approved two additional nurses to help implement the "test to stay" program. This will put an additional nurse at Warrior Ridge, Rebecca Boone, Daniel Boone, Black Hawk Middle School and Warrenton High School. The state is providing the district \$600,000 to support the "test to stay" program and other COVID-19 related expenses.

All new business items can be viewed on BoardDocs. [Here is a direct link to the meeting.](#)

You can view the entire board meeting on Facebook.

Sincerely,

Gregg Klinginsmith, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

Warren County R-III School District

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