

WJMS ACCOUNTABILITY MINUTES

October 2020

Date | 10/12/2020 | *Meeting called to order by* Kate Broyles and John SeEVERS

In Attendance

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|----------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|
| michael brooks | Sharon Burger | Kim Halingstad | Tricia Samuelson |
| Kate Broyles | Melissa Gutierrez | Aimee Pless | John SeEVERS |

Approval of Minutes

The August 2020 minutes were published to the school website the evening of August 31. An amendment was made to correct the spelling of michael brooks's name to all lowercase on September 13.

Principal's Report

Kim Halingstad gave the principal's report. Parent-teacher conferences are taking place via Zoom this week on Tuesday evening and throughout the day Wednesday. Links to the signup forms for each day were published on October 8th. PTA will be providing boxed lunches from Rocky Mountain Wraps for staff on Wednesday.

Our enrollment number from October Count is 18 students below the enrollment projected in the spring. We have enough money in our carry-forward funds to cover the difference. Incoming funds are a little lower than past years because fees are lower and were finalized later into the year. We may feel the financial impact of families not paying fees; so far families have been very good about contacting the school to set up payments when needed. We will be asking families to try to at least pay for the math workbook(s) for their student(s).

Our kitchen manager advised this morning that the federal waivers providing free breakfast and lunches will be extended through the end of the school year. Students are asked to pre-order meals each week to make their entrée choices, but students can receive meals without pre-ordering.

Learning Environment and Remote Learning

The window to request a change in learning environment is open through Wednesday, October 14. As of the morning before the meeting, 2-3 families have requested moving students from hybrid learning to full-time remote learning and 7-8 families have requested moving students from full-time remote to hybrid learning.

Attendance and engagement on Fridays, which are a remote learning day for all students, continue to be a struggle. Students are expected to login to each class and complete learning tasks on Fridays, even if they are not expected to work with teachers in individual or small groups that day. Kim has seen many math and science classes doing small group breakouts on Fridays, and teachers making personal calls to follow up with students that have missed classes. We would like to improve messaging, so students understand they need to participate in classes on Fridays and are looking at ways for elective teachers to do more focused work with full-time remote students on Fridays.

To support both in-person and remote learners, our PTA is kicking off a Clash of the Classrooms fundraiser to purchase voice amplification systems and DVI-HDMI cables for each classroom teacher.

UIP Progress

We are still in the discovery stages for this year's Unified Improvement Plan (UIP). We expect that much of the plan will be carried over from last year's goals. While the only current data we have is MAP assessment data from our recently concluded fall MAP assessments, staff will be digging into that data this Thursday.

WJMS ACCOUNTABILITY MINUTES

October 2020

We will continue with our process goal of improving Responsive Instruction through Professional Learning Community (PLC) work and will be training a cohort of our teachers to lead that work for their departments. We may revise instructional goal around math after looking at MAP data.

It was suggested that Zak Martin at Marshdale or Christian Kingsbury (formerly at Marshdale, now at Bear Creek K-8) would be good resources for advice on streamlining our UIP framework if we are interested in doing that.

It was asked if our school has an instructional coach and whether they dig into data with administration; yes, our coach is Caity Mergendahl and she does do data work with staff. It is a challenge this year that we have less data from testing with no spring 2020 MAP and no 2019-2020 CMAS data.

It was asked when the school will have fall MAP data. Reports are starting to come down this week. Staff are looking at data and will be considering it as part of a larger data picture. Some reliability issues are being noticed by schools, possibly due to resources available in online testing environments outside of school.

A concern was expressed about whether all students' grades are declining. We are seeing a district-wide slide in grades. Information has not been disaggregated yet to a point where we can specifically tie issues to specific aspects, but anecdotally students are reporting challenges in engagement during remote learning.

It was suggested that once disaggregated data is available, it would be useful to see if students with strong grades and test scores prior to remote learning continue to achieve or if other patterns develop. We have a strong assessment team at the district level working on it. It would be useful to have that data to look at for future to develop a playbook for ongoing changes in education models and learning environments.

Health and Safety

Following up on the topic requested from the August 31 meeting, it was asked if the school has staff trained in [Stop the Bleed](#) or kits on site. Administrators, counselors/mental health, and other staff that interact with all students were trained last year. The school has kits at the office and by the gymnasium. Last year Marshdale teachers were trained and the school developed an orange bucket kit with a bleed kit, first aid kit, and other emergency supplies. Our school has orange buckets that are used for lockdown supplies and each teacher has an emergency go bag.

It was asked if the school works with The "I Love U Guys" Foundation; yes, we use their Standard Response Protocol (SPRx). Our lockdown drills this year will be virtual; they will use the usual notification over the PA but students will stay in their seats, then watch a video in class and discuss it with teachers. We will be very clear that in a non-drill situation, we would not be following social distancing rules.

Meeting adjourned at 3:22 pm.

On October 29, the November meeting was rescheduled to Thursday, November 5 so the committee could address the School Budget Priorities Survey before the survey deadline.

Next Meeting

Date: 11/5/2020

Time: 2:45 pm

Location: WJMS / Zoom