

WJMS ACCOUNTABILITY MINUTES

February 2021

Date | 2/8/2021 | *Meeting called to order by* Kate Broyles and John Seevers

In Attendance

Nanci Blanton	Sharon Burger	Kim Halingstad	John Seevers
michael brooks	Elizabeth Claflin	Dan Keane	
Kate Broyles	Melissa Gutierrez	Tricia Samuelson	

Approval of Minutes

The January 2021 minutes were published to the school website the evening of January 11.

Principal's Report

Kim Halingstad gave the principal's report.

[Return to Hybrid Learning](#)

Secondary students returned to hybrid learning on January 25, a week earlier than expected. We are very proud of our staff for adjusting to the change. We had 23 students choose to move from remote to hybrid learning at that time and 17 students moved from hybrid to remote learning.

Our Student Support Team outreach has had some successes with students that struggle with engagement during remote learning. Districtwide, schools have difficulty engaging students during remote learning, regardless of whether those students are learning remotely in a hybrid learning model or full-time remote.

The Board of Education looked at adding Fridays to on-campus days for hybrid learners to increase student learning time and reduce the treatment of remote learning on Friday as a "free day". After discussion and reflection, the board concluded that is not feasible at this point. There is an increased expectation that Friday activities have more engagement for both teachers and students.

[2021-2022 Learning Models](#)

The district recently announced that all PK-12 students will have the choice of either 100% in-person and 100% remote learning for the 2021-2022 school year. Families choosing 100% remote learning may choose asynchronous remote learning, provided through [Jeffco Virtual Academy](#), or a centrally based synchronous remote learning model, which will be funded through CARES Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. Students in synchronous remote learning would remain connected to our school, probably through Advise (homeroom) classes. Schools will not be offering dual-modality – simultaneous in-person and remote – learning in the 2021-2022 school year. Staff may be moved to other sites to support centrally based synchronous remote learning, depending on individual schools' in-person enrollment.

[2021-2022 Budget](#)

We began the school year with a projected 2021-2022 enrollment of 553 students. At the start of January 2021, the projected 2021-2022 enrollment was 484 students. Our current projection is about 510. The smaller number is partly due to a smaller incoming 6th grade class and partly to families choosing other options for learning. The difference of over 40 students will require downward adjustment to the 2021-2022 budget of about \$255,000, which cannot be managed without changes in staffing. There is a strong possibility that the school will have to cut two full-time equivalent (FTE) positions for the 2021-2022 school year.

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We had been hoping to ease that cut via attrition, e.g., teachers that plan to retire or otherwise leave our school. We do not have any teachers that can transition into that position and the electives they teach are part of a program that is too popular to justify cutting, so we will be hiring for the pre-engineering/robotics position being vacated by David Williams's retirement. We may have another hard-to-fill position opening, which is a challenge since secondary teachers in Colorado must be either highly qualified or have an [endorsement](#) for any core subject areas that they teach. We expect to have more teachers teaching multiple subject areas next year.

It was asked whether the school receives funding for students in full-time remote learning that choose to attend in-person for electives. We will receive funding for students in synchronous remote learning that attend in-person for electives; we would not receive funding for students in asynchronous remote learning as they would be counted as enrolled with Jeffco Virtual Academy. In a typical year, we would get minimal funding for homeschooled students that attend just for electives. It was noted that electives availability for students in remote learning options or homeschooled students are dependent on space in their course selections, and they would not be able to get into a class that is full.

New Business

It was agreed to skip the March meeting scheduled for March 8, keeping the date available in case the need arises for the School Accountability Committee to meet at that time. The next scheduled meeting would then be Monday, April 12.

Looking at committee leadership needs for the 2021-2022 school year, we are looking for a volunteer to co-chair with John Seevers. Kate anticipates possible work conflicts as business travel resumes. Melissa has offered to stay on as secretary. Anyone interested in co-chairing the committee next year may e-mail Kate or John.

Meeting adjourned at 2:57 pm.

Next Meeting

Date: 4/12/2021

Time: 2:45 pm

Location: WJMS / Zoom