



Academic Committee
January 19, 2021
11:00 at CT Young

1) Virtual Academy Update

- Currently exploring what we are doing next year?
- How many students would enroll in the Virtual Academy for the 2021-22 school year?
- Elementary Program will need to be District-made for the 2021-22 school year.
- 7-12 will likely remain using the Edgenuity Program.
- Discussion around focusing on student progress following a school year in the Virtual Academy.
- There is some concern with students receiving services when enrolled in Academy.
- Longterm - is this something we can extend to Open Enrolled students or community school students?
- Possibility of extending the work into summer months to provide more opportunities for students to complete work this year.

2) THS Pathways and 8th grade Parent Meeting

- Videos are currently being created to show students/parents what options are available at Taylor High School.
- Trying to find ways to highlight particular information in the Course Guide so important information is not missed.
- RISE UP - currently piloting. Retail and customer service or key focus for the curriculum. Hoping to offer next year. Students will receive certification and will have a direct career experience through an internship opportunity. Tests are "chunked" so that there is not a large end-of-the-year exam.
- Working to offer different options under our own roof, utilizing our staff and current resources.
- A Home 101 Course is being structured currently. Students will have an opportunity to explore all skills you need to fix things in your home (electrical, plumbing, etc.). 201 specializes in specific fields and extends to field work.
- Lunches with Dr. Ault have helped to learn what students want offered at THS.
- Katie Ryan is working on a manual to better understand CTAG, CCP, and AP.
- Scheduling will be online. A Google Form will be shared to use this to schedule classes for 2021-2022.

- February 4th-11th will be the Course Request Sheet window for families to complete. Parents and students will complete this together.
- Will need to reach out to families soon to find how many students are anticipating enrolling in the Virtual Academy next year.
- An option to possibly enroll in Virtual Academy can be added to the course request form so that administration has a better understanding for planning and staffing. "If a Virtual Academy was offered, would you attend for the 2021-2022 school year." (I would, I would not, I am not sure at this time)
- Discussed a future-focused idea of offering some virtual classes for students, while having them come in-person for others.
- Discussed the possibility of offering the Virtual Program to Three Rivers homeschool families.
- Virtual allows students who have been suspended to continue on-track with online classes. The same is true for students with health issues or other reasons that students are unable to attend in-person.
- COVID will change how we view high school. Schools will not revert back to the way things were pre-COVID. Scheduling will be difficult but the options for students will create a customized learning environment.
- Discussed looking into networking with other neighboring schools to create a virtual option.
- Classroom technology will need to be updated for a successful virtual program. Cameras that follow teachers would make it possible for students to "attend" a variety of classes in a variety of schools virtually.
- Mr. McDonald asked if we can create a "mock" room to set up completely virtual-ready to see how successful we can be virtually.

3) Interest in Greek system in place of Valedictorian/Salutatorian

- A clear explanation of why this is being considered will need to be clearly communicated with the community.
- The process would not be completed in one year. It would be released as a phase-out/phase-in process starting in MS
- First years - consider phasing in the Greek system while keeping val/sal recognized during the phase-out process.
- Val/Sal forces some students to miss some opportunities because they feel like they have to take certain classes based on weight instead of possible interest.
- Could all magna cum laudes could be the body of students used for potential graduation speakers.
- Purpose is to enhance recognition not reduce it.
- Discussions/community conversations will start soon.
- Colleges are not looking at val/sal any longer.

4) State Benchmark Assessments 1/27 and 2/3 at THS

- data will provide student progress that mirrors state testing.
- the 3rd will be science and makeup testing

-teachers who are proctoring will not be able to Zoom on these days.

5) ACT Feb 23 -- Remote learning day for grades 9, 10, 12

-This will allow juniors only to be on campus for testing.

-grades 9, 10, and 12 will be remote learning on assignments given ahead of time as many teachers will be proctoring the ACT.

-Can we add to the District calendar an asterisk to indicate the week the ACT is typically given? A placeholder to give families an idea of when it will be most likely given.

6) Success Plans (Katie/Joan)

-In other districts, scores were shown in Abre. GPA, discipline, attendance were used to create an individualized score.

-What does a student success plan look like and how do we make it meaningful?

7) Other Items

-Next meeting: February 23, 2021 11:00 am