To: Caesar Rodney Community

From: Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald, Superintendent

Date: March 10, 2021

RE: School Board Work Session

School Board Work Session Review

- The District remains at 92% rate of attendance.
- On March 15th our secondary schools “C” cohort students will be merged with both “A” and “B” cohorts. Parents and students in cohort “C” have been notified. Parents and students must remember that there are still State level COVID mandates that all public school districts must adhere to in order to be compliant.
- We are also looking into ways to increase in person instruction such as increasing the time spent on math instruction at the secondary schools and still meet the Division of Public Health and the Dept. of Education safety standards.
- The Secretary of Education has made a request to the USDOE requesting flexibility regarding state assessments – we know that assessments won’t be used for accountability purposes but there is a concern over being able to identify the academic needs of our students. The final decision is still in the discussion stage.
- The Wi-Fi equipped buses that were funded by the Camden-Wyoming Rotary Club are on target for rollout the second week in March.
- Questions pertaining to the proposed St. Thomas More realignment may still be submitted via e-mail. The email contact and the University Delaware study can all be found on the District website.
- A Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) section related to the St. Thomas More plans will soon be added to the District website. It will list the questions submitted about the middle school realignment proposal and responses provided.

COVID-19 Updates

- Our current COVID numbers are down. We currently have 6 staff members out due to quarantine or infection and student numbers fall within the range of the State Dashboard, which does not indicate a number when below 11.
- The high school will remains a testing site every Wednesday – no prior registration is needed!
- We have been notified by the Dept. of Education that the second vaccination series of those educators listed as “2A” will be completed next week. Individuals in that segment are classified as the highest need or highest risk educators.
- The Dept. of Education has begun the vaccination process of those educators in the “2B” group. This is an even larger group then the first group – all individuals that want the vaccine will have the opportunity to receive it.
Miscellaneous

- The District is currently dealing with a bus contractor dropping all of their bus routes. These eliminated routes primarily impact Star Hill Elementary, and Frear & Postlethwait Middle Schools.
- A second bus contractor has informed the District that they have lost 4 drivers and have been unable to replace them – this is a problem that the district is also having. We have reached out to the Delaware Dept. Of Education for assistance – but have been told that this is a statewide issue.
- Compounding our transportation issue – on Monday morning a bus in the Fifer Middle School parking lot was stolen and a number of buses were vandalized. Should anyone have any information we ask that they contact the Camden Police Department directly.

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