

Employee Council Minutes -2/8/21 Virtual Meeting

- Amanda Thompson welcomed the Employee Council to the meeting. Mr. Wise talked about today being a transition day with HS and MS returning to hybrid learning.
- District Updates
 - Mr. Wise said last year we had \$38 million worth of cuts. This year is also a difficult year. We may have to go into reserves in the spring; but the numbers look better than they did in the fall. We are looking at not having to do furlough days next year, and are also looking at keeping employee health care premiums flat.
- Vaccines/COVID Testing
 - Mr. Wise said we are partnering with all of our health care providers. Student facing positions have been moved up on the list as priority to receive vaccinations. The biggest problem we have currently is supply shortages. Each provider wants to get people their vaccines as quickly as possible; but the number of vaccines available is a challenge, and it is difficult to know how many will come in and when. If you are not a Kaiser member and receive an invite from Kaiser to sign up for a vaccine, you are eligible to sign up. Those that interact directly with students will receive a notice from the District asking for information so that they can be set up for vaccines in the correct priority order. Employees will also see a Workday task coming soon that is optional to complete. This task will allow employees to log in information on whether they have received the COVID vaccine. The purpose of this is to track information for quarantines, so staff know who needs to be quarantined.
 - If someone has signed up through the Kaiser queue, they will need to sign up in the DCSD queue. In addition, if you are signed up for more than one waitlist, you can stay on those until you get the vaccine. Once you receive the vaccine, you are encouraged to go in and remove yourself from other waitlists. This allows the vaccine process to move smoothly.
 - Vaccinations are not mandatory.
 - The District has to work within the provider areas on where employees need to go to get the COVID vaccination. This means that it is possible that employees may have to drive a distance to receive the vaccine.
 - DCSD is continuing to monitor data on substitutes and quarantines to ensure there is appropriate coverage; and the District is responsive to employees.
 - COVID incident rates, vaccine data, and trends will continue to be monitored.
 - Testing is key. There are multiple ways for staff and students to be tested.
 - Employees will soon be able to get saliva tests for COVID that can be done at home with a tele-nurse being available to assist. The District is working with the

state to be a part of this pilot program called BinaxNOW. It is a nasal swab you can perform during a telehealth appointment with a healthcare provider. It takes 15 minutes to get the results. Nancy Ingalls is giving the state contact information for student facing staff.

- If you go for a saliva test at COVID Check CO, you can't have anything to eat or drink 30 minutes prior to taking the test.
- Sub Town Hall
 - There are links in the agenda to the agenda and sub office presentation for those that are interested.
- Employee Questions:
 - Can we get our vaccine through any vendor at this point? Yes
 - How much will shots cost? They are free of charge. This is also true of testing whether at home or at Colorado COVID check.
 - Is the in person testing still twice a month, or has this changed? Anyone who works with kids can go in for testing twice a month. If in between those times, you are concerned, you can go in outside of the twice a month times.
 - Knowing that employee groups are prioritized differently, should people assume that if they get an invitation, they should sign up? Once you get the invitation, time is of the essence. You want to go in and get signed up quickly.
- Staff Wellness
 - Ms. Thompson talked about the wellness website to highlight upcoming events and strategies to achieve wellness. Some of these are:
 - Acts of Kindness week (next week)
 - March Madness cooking event (coming up soon)
 - Regular wellness breaks
 - Fitness classes
 - Strategies to lose weight
 - Virtual calming corners (free apps)
 - Stress reduction
 - Another important tool is the District's employee assistance program. This program offers a number of free sessions for counseling, child care resources, legal services, etc. The District does not receive any information about employees who use this service.
 - There are also a number of employee discounts available. Go to the wellness website to see discounts that are available.
- Wrap-Up
 - Ms. Thompson thanked Employee Council members for attending and closed the meeting.