

**Executive Director Board Report- August**

**School News**

* The first day of school went well and students seemed to be excited to come back to school.
* Academy update: 123 contracts and deposits are in for academy students.
* Charter update: we have 614 enrolled and 608 on the first day of school and several offers out awaiting responses.
* Our beforecare and aftercare programs are either full or very few openings at each level.

**Staff News**

* Professional development for August:
  + New Staff orientation
  + Children’s house assistant training
  + Mandatory Reporters of Child Abuse and Neglect
  + Harassment Prevention for Employees
  + Appropriate Touch**-**
  + Employee Safety Awareness –
  + Rise Up Against Workplace Bullying –
  + Diversity in the Workplace: Diversity for All **–** NEW
  + MS math consultant to discuss new structure for math classes at Sterling
  + New Staff orientation
  + All staff-COVID protocols and procedures

**Administration News**

* ESSER II and ESSER III applications for COVID funds have all been resubmitted for rollover and awaiting approval. All of ESSER II funds will be used for learning loss materials (anything reading, math, science, geography). ESSER III funds- 20% required to be used for learning loss. The 20% will go toward intervention materials and learning materials for EC, reading and math specialist and anything else needed in the classrooms not purchased from the ESSER II funds. The remainder 80% will be used for outdoor education- picnic tables, shade sails and a plan for outdoor environments and the back field.
* Whole Kids Foundation garden grant awarded $3000 to Sterling out of 1400 applicants. Stephanie had applied for this grant last spring with ideas and goals from the middle school team. The team will use the money to transform the MS garden which needs work.
* Directors began inclusion guided lessons for teachers, culturally responsive classroom overview, and teaching diverse learners.
* School wide Inventory- for purchasing needs
* “The Carying Place” representatives met with administrators to learn more about how we can partner with them.
* Office of Charter Meeting: Dave Machado informed all charter schools that we must follow our charter and in fact cannot offer virtual unless we change our charter with exception of emergency plans. We have a framework for emergency plans and working on schedules at this time to be submitted to OCS.
* Legal Guidance on vaccines and testing requirements for staff: as a school we can request for all staff to be vaccinated but does not advise it since we did not offer this information to teachers prior to signing a contract as we would have some who would not be able to work at Sterling with no warning. We can ask for percentages in an anonymous survey as to whether or not staff are vaccinated or not (not always accurate) and can report these percentages to the community without names or particular levels. We can ask for those not vaccinated to receive weekly testing if we can offer it on campus but a staff member has a right to refuse.

**Facilities and Maintenance**

* Summer projects:
* Children’s house classrooms on the playground side received fences to provide a separation between their outdoor classroom space and the playground. This will allow for some outdoor working time.
* Ordered and received furniture (still awaiting some pieces): some storage cabinets for EC and classrooms, shelves, tables, and chairs for MS, A few needed shelves for LE and UE.
* Art room remodel: the art room received a complete makeover with new floors, paint, stainless steel sinks, cabinets and storage cabinets.
* The back field, behind “C” building and in front of sports court was graded, drainage spouts placed, and new sod where erosion took place complete.
* A few new picnic tables placed
* Garden beds built
* ADA Adaptive swing purchased to be installed on the elementary playground
* AC units repaired
* Several leaks fixed
* Light replacements
* Classroom and office painting as needed
* Fences re-stained and some torn down and awaiting price decrease in wood for replacement

**Positive COVID Cases on Campus Reporting**

***Date tested positive Last date on campus Staff/Student/Visitor***8/14/21 8/12/21 Parent

**Masks:**

**Students who are not fully vaccinated after a close contact in a classroom or other school setting if masks were being worn appropriately and consistently by both the person with COVID-19 and the potentially exposed person do NOT need to quarantine.** This is based on updated CDC guidance and studies that have shown extremely low risk of COVID-19 transmission in classroom settings when face masks were being used appropriately by both the person with COVID-19 and the potentially exposed person, as well as multiple layers of prevention measures in place to prevent transmission in school settings. This applies to exposures in classrooms, other in- school settings, and school transportation but does not apply to exposures during extracurricular or athletic activities.

Having all of our community for those ages 5 and older adds a protective layer. We also do not have a virtual school and therefore there is not an option for students to remain home unless they have a disability that is keeping them from being successful in school and therefore requiring homebound services.

**Virtual:** Why virtual classes were not offered.

* According to last year’s guidance and recently from Dave Machado at Office of Charter Schools (OCS), Charter schools were not allowed to offer hybrid or virtual classes unless rewriting their charter and an approval process of OCS was done prior to the upcoming school year.
* Our Charter was renewed in 2017 and is not due to be renewed until 2027. Should Sterling want to add a virtual school, the charter will need to be amended and submitted for approval. I do not recommend virtual school for any Montessori program. In the case of a shutdown or quarantine period, Sterling will submit emergency plans to OCS to be approved quickly and must remain temporary according to shutdown requirements and quarantine requirements.
* Therefore, at this time, any student not in attendance is considered absent.
* In the case of a closure and preschool is permitted to remain open, we will keep the academy open.
* **Vaccines:** Attorney guidance-
* We can choose to ask for proof of vaccination and require it if we so choose.
* It is not advised if staff were given contracts prior to the school year starting and without that knowledge while knowing that staff may have medical or personal reasons keeping them from receiving the vaccine.
* We can share an overall percentage number of those vaccinated to our community without any details (name, class, level, etc.).
* Staff can refuse to share this information so it may not be accurate percentages.
* A school can require periodic testing but should have it on campus and a staff member has a right to refuse testing.