

Guests:

Todd Stewart
Cathy Knowles
Sue O'Neil

Introductions

Mission of CPPAC

News from WPS:

- Techquity committee working on an action plan
- South High topping off has started
- Doherty is underway
- Family is critical to the education of our kids
- Strategic plan is underway
- Online grading is vital to easily share data and empowers students and involves all stakeholders in the learning process.
- Equity
 - 1. Equity across schools with access to grades and SIS- looking to adopt one soon.
 - 2. Equity across schools for lunch time- 20 minutes to actually sit and eat. There is a discrepancy in the elementary schools.
 - 3. Equity for recess time- there is a 30 minute recess policy in WPS< but there is a large difference in how this is implemented in the elementary schools. S.330 in the Massachusetts state legislation
 - 4. Equity in communication- principals to post regular newsletters and increase regular communication.
 - 5. Equity for increased parental involvement in site councils
 - 6. Equity across schools for parent email to be used as a means of communication
- Technology plan is available for review. Current plan goes to 2021

Portrait of a Graduate Project

Todd Stewart
Cathy Knowles

- An Overview of the project
- What are the set of skills that graduates need when they leave WPS, and what are the skills that those students need in 8th grade that will prepare them for their futures.
- Studying the changes in society and what the students need to be successful out in the world.

The Future of Work- video

- In studying the future of work, we are trying to envision the needs that our students will thrive with once they launch into the future.
- Culture and history of an area, and the backgrounds of the families of the students matter deeply. Collectively, what are the skills that are transferable for our kids? What are they going to be able to utilize throughout their adult life that will serve them well. The purpose of the study is to be intentional about the needs and anticipated needs of the students.
- How does this help inform WPS's work to ensure they are ready to be contributing citizens.
- Barr Foundation grant \$300K post secondary success for all students- but what does that mean?

- Surveyed 9th, 10th and 11th graders in all 7 high schools about needs and skills that they need to become successful when they leave high school. These students will be revisited throughout. These students will serve as ambassadors to focus groups of a variety of stakeholders in the district.
- We want our kids to graduate, but that's setting the bar low. Now we are going to focus on the skills that set them aside from others, that will be able to carry with them throughout the rest of their journey post secondary.
- Currently, it's in the data building stage.
- What are the most important skills our students need, and how can we utilize the curriculum to help to develop these skills.
- Raising a presence and a thoughtfulness for our students and what they need in addition to the diploma.
- There is, in other countries that are deemed academically successful, there is a push to be more simplistic, more centered on the whole child.
- Envision a student at 25, and what are they going to have that will help them to have a fulfilling life.
- Nothing we teach our kids is worthwhile if we can't make it meaningful and align with larger goals.
- This is a city-wide effort.
- This work will complement the WPS Strategic Plan.
- The goal is to draft a one page, big idea document that states the general needs. Then, the teachers will envision what those big ideas look like in their classrooms.

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Q: what has been the success rate at other schools?

A: WPS went to a school in California that has gone through the Portrait of a Graduate process. Mission Vista High School. 6 years ago their school was in a place where they weren't sure what they needed to do and where they needed to go. They asked the kids, and built a word cloud based on student input. The largest word was "irrelevant." This was a wake up call for these teachers. They stepped back, and turned things around, and they don't worry about the test scores, they are focused on building their students up and reflect on their teaching and the WHYs of what they do. Why change, Why is something different needed, Why are they teaching? Wildly Important Goal. Why they need to do things differently for their students. There was engagement. 5 years later, the biggest word in the word cloud was "engagement." Partnering with Next Generation Learning: The Barr Foundation grant will allow the district to reflect on their methods and their focus and the needs of the kids so that everyone has exposure to relevant skills. Schools that are clear with intentions are better at building these skills.

State of the Schools was cancelled.

January 8

March 11

May 13 Dr. O'Neil, Superintendent Binienda

Meeting adjourned 8:35pm