**Academic Excellence Committee Report (2-18-21)**

Called to order @ 8:30am

In attendance: Andy Lyman, Gwen Anderson, Nate Schwieters, Suzy McIntyre, Ruth Thom

1. Re-established meeting dates (all on Andy’s Zoom at 4:00)
2. March 23, April 20, May 18 (with new start/end times, decided to move it to 4:00)
3. Revision to beginning of the year learning goal “In service to increase our student achievement, we propose starting with improvement of student attendance and building parent engagement”
4. New goal “Continuing student support to increase attendance/engagement in class (both in person and DL) with SEL/academics as well as building trust with families to elicit feedback from parents to increase engagement”
5. We have only just begun conversations about activities/opportunities to bring families “in” for learning sessions and/or relationship building events.
6. Ideas so far: Virtual open houses, parking lot listening session (spring), student “walk around” videos, summer sessions at apartments, etc.
7. Student engagement program growth from Ruth and Stef for returning to school. Ideas submitted from Ruth:
   * + 1. 4th grade finalizing project and will participate in zoo expo on March 17th. After that, all three 4th classrooms are going to work on starting a school garden. Other teachers/grades will also be involved.
       2. 5th-8th grade podcasts are being recorded and finalized this week and next.
       3. 3rd grade Variety Club has been a hit and will continue when we RTS. Ruth will visit each classroom every other week with a variety of activities (STEAM, Maker, thinking skills, student interests, curriculum extensions).
       4. Ruth and Stef continue to visit K classrooms every other week. Stef--SEL, Ruth--thinking skills
       5. Stef is visiting a 1st classroom and two 2nd grade classrooms weekly/bi-weekly for SEL. She is also working with Jess and Gwen on RTS SEL supports.
       6. Stef has an ongoing self-care/goal setting project with upper grade students

* + - * 1. Additionally, Ruth and Stef are working on providing “pop-up PD”, short podcasts/video resources for teachers to access when convenient--focusing on ways to empower students, personally and academically

1. Modifications to current plans now that students are slowly moving back into the building? **What needs to happen? Intentional conversations with paras and specialists with who does what and when.**

Meeting adjourned @ 8:55am

Next meeting date: March 23rd @ 4:00