

Superintendents Update

4-26-21

Board of Education Work Session April 13

- Work session was four hours long (6-10 pm)
- Topics:
 - Budget
 - Class III Officers
 - Facilities/Referendum

Facilities

- [Educational Benefits of district PreK-4 and 5-8 schools](#)
 - On the agenda this evening is a resolution for board approval that allows us to take the next step in the referendum process.
 - This includes submitting documentation to the Department of Education for review to renovate LPS into a PreK-4 district school and build a new 5-8 school on the middle/high school campus.
 - As part of the review, the board will receive what is called a Preliminary Eligible Cost (PEC) from the Department of Education.
 - This includes an approval for the project as well as the exact amount of state aid the Department of Education will provide for the project.
- Changes to the design, etc. can still be made during the review process.
- [Postcard for the Community Survey](#)
 - Purpose of the survey

District Safety

- The Class III Officers are included in the budget that I will present this evening.
- The program will be reviewed by the Superintendent with the help of an equity consultant over the next 10 months.
- Superintendent will provide monthly Class III officer reports to the Lambertville, West Amwell and Stockton governing bodies starting in September 2021.
- Superintendent will meet the governing bodies of Lambertville, West Amwell and Stockton quarterly during the 2021-2022 school year to share updates and answer any questions.
- The district safety committee will continue to work on developing a Comprehensive District Safety Plan (district goal for 2021-2022) to harden our facilities.

Review of the Class III Officer Program

- All of our Class III Officers participated in the equity training on March 15 and 16 this year.
 - Two full days - Implicit Bias and Cultural Competency Training (Marlon Webb - On the Mount LLC consultant focusing on Racially Influenced Policing)
- Survey students and staff (Superintendent)
- Small focus groups with students (Superintendent and a facilitator)
 - Social Justice Class
 - Latin X population
 - Students of color
 - Any student who would like to participate
- Small focus groups with teachers (Superintendent and a facilitator)
- Small focus groups with community members (Superintendent and a facilitator)
- Open forum with community members, Officers in Charge, Class III Officers and a facilitator
- Open forum with high school students, Officers in Charge, Class III Officers and a facilitator

What is the role of our Class III Officers?

1. School Security

- Arrival and dismissal time (traffic)
- Screening of visitors
- Safety checks - walking the building to ensure exterior doors are locked
- Assisting with monthly safety drills
- Making recommendations on how we can improve our security practices
- Outside during recess (LPS/WAS)
- Viewing security cameras (middle/high school)
- Managing the secured vestibule (middle/high school, LPS)

2. If an incident occurs in or out of school that requires the involvement of law enforcement, the Principal will reach out to Lieutenant Brown (Lambertville) or Lieutenant Skillman (West Amwell) so that a patrol officer can handle the investigation. The Class III officer will not be involved in this process as that is not their role.

What the Class III Officers are not doing!

1. Student discipline
2. Walking students to and from class
3. In the cafeteria during lunch periods
4. Arresting students
 - We have not had an arrest since the Class III officers started two years ago.
 - The only time they would be involved in an arrest would be if there was a threat to student/staff safety.

** Scenario: If two students get into a physical altercation in the hallway and the Class III officer is the only adult around how will they handle it?

They will handle it just like any other adult in the building. Break up the altercation to ensure student safety and refer it to the high school administration to address.