

SPS-Safe School Reopening Task Force – Intervention Sub Committee Meeting Notes

Date: 6/16/2020

Committee Name: SPS-Safe School Reopening Task Force - Intervention

Attendee Names: Jodi Harmon, Dave Crump, Kristina Baker, Katie Treloar, Erica Clark, John Hammil, Jennifer Hardt, Tamika Lamere, Chris Moore, Larry Quisano, Ciara May, Melanie Smith

Questions/Wonderings:

- How can we maintain physical distancing in the classroom and keep students safe, while keeping classrooms engaging?
- How do we support teachers who are feeling high levels of stress and anxiety over how to organize their classroom?
- How do teachers build connection with students who have been out of school for 6 months?
- How will we address the recent happenings around equity and race?
- How will staff respond to students when these issues are brought up?

Meeting Notes:

- Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI) is Spokane Public Schools' de-escalation model. We can use this as our driver for staff training.
- Staff, students, families and the community need training/information on self-care.
- We can create "one pagers" on de-escalation and on self-care.
- Kristina Baker shared several articles specific to needs brought on by COVID-19 we can use to support staff and also message out to parents specifically on:
 - verbal and non-verbal de-escalation techniques
 - guidance on how to cope during these hard times
- Frontier Behavioral Health has a help line for people experiencing stress due to COVID-19 (1.833.681.0211). We need to get this number out to families and our staff. Schools can use Peach Jar, put on school website, etc.
- Counselors can start using Peach Jar to message out regular supports to families, with a focus on families using Medicaid.
- A lot of staff members are not aware of our Employee Assistance Program; we need to get this information to all staff.
- We re-visited the idea of conference before or at the beginning of the year to make connections with students and families. We can be intentional about this time to ask families about what services they may need and how we can partner. We can also create a universal message for families about the Why of what we're doing what we're doing, in terms of safety measures at school.
- All messaging to families and staff must have a lens of equity and race, while being simple, clear and specific.
- To address teachers feeling anxiety about how to organize their classrooms, the district can provide a sheet of ideas and solutions to support them.

Follow Up/Next Steps: What are we missing? What do we want to highlight?

Next Meeting Date: 6/18/2020

