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School Council Principal Report: September 20, 2024

Infrastructure

- Serge Labrie from facilities will be coming to FIMESPAF/School council in October to discuss future plans for the building's outdoor space and hear your feedback.
- We have a major renovation of our staff room happening right now thanks to facilities
- We also have a screen and sound system being installed in the gym, thanks to our partnerships with facilities and division programs.

Budget Updates

- We had a large and unexpected decrease of enrollment from the end of June to August
- This decrease meant smaller class sizes than expected and the need to collapse a classroom in order to meet budget
- Funding Clarification
 - We are funded on a three year rolling average which then is allocated to schools
 - Losing students means a loss of funds where funds are already tight
 - We do not receive specific funding for students who are coded. Funding is not linked to assessments. The division receives a lump sum amount and has to allocate that to all schools based on need.
 - Budget has to pay for staffing, events, supplies (academic and maintenance related), photocopying, presenters, some repairs
 - Broxton has some of the lowest class sizes in Spruce Grove as we have prioritized this for language learning, which unfortunately may not be feasible if the current government funding stays the same
 - We have also prioritized a Literacy Lead teacher for targeted intervention, last year we received learning loss funds to support this but so far no announcement from Alberta Education on this

Comprehensive School Health

What is already in place?

- Hot lunch sponsorship
- Adults who are modeling what/when to eat
- Talking about moderation, how food is fuel, etc.
- Enforcing/encouraging most nourishing snack first
- Foods/intro to cooking Option (food safety/canada food guide and healthy cooking options)
- Snack fridges and Snack Bins in EVERY Classroom, Breakfast Club

- Nutrition class options for Jr highs
- Movement breaks are common practice
- Using centers or activities that require changing places/movement
- Bike stations around the school
- Access to life skills on a referral/needed basis
- Flexible seating options
- Throw a ball to answer
- Adults in building modeling an active lifestyle - ex. walking club, active participation in intramurals, etc.
- Teaching about physical literacy and how it helps with being active for life
- Implementing active learning games
- Extracurricular/Intramurals Opportunities
- Timetable - structured PE to be outside as well
- Firm deadlines yet teachers are providing lots of opportunities to complete tasks.
- Prioritizing positive relationships with students
- Utilizing outside learning
- Have a way for students to check in with teachers daily
- Full time counsellor/Zen Zone/calming space options within classrooms
- fidget bins/visuals given to every classroom
- Teachers doing Social Emotional Learning lessons in classroom
- Monthly newsletter from councillor
- Utilize Social Stories that model mental well-being/Visuals
- Parent inservice nights to educate parents on mental health and student success
- Staff social events after school (Paint Nights, Photography Club, Jubilations)
- School community building activities like the theatre production that included cross grades (kinders and upper years, staff vs student sport games, spirit/dress-up days, school-wide Terry Fox run and celebration, Francofete, Extravaganza, Indigenous Day)

Moving Forward...

- Focus on student connection to adults
- Modeling active and healthy living through intentional DPA
- Mentorship/buddy program

Education Plan

- Literacy
 - Continue collaborative team meetings to look at data and plan for instruction (we saw some great movement last year and we want to keep that momentum)
 - Literacy Lead shifting to one on one intervention with our students who are well below grade level to close that gap
 - School target to streamline literacy programs in classrooms. All K-3 teachers will be using UFLIE and Je peux lire en français based on consultant feedback last year to ensure consistency as students move classrooms.
 - 4-9 focus on comprehension strategies and oral language improvement in students (use of language monitor for games and speaking)

- Numeracy
 - Continue collaborative team meetings to look at the Elk Island screen data and identify areas for improvement, specific strands and which students need support with what
 - We saw huge growth in our numeracy score in our screens last year, but there is still work to be done
- Wellness
 - Staff wellness is a huge focus, if our adults are ok then our kids are better off
 - Targeting wellness activities for staff, for example a coffee cart that delivers the day after a school event where staff work over 10 hour days, thank you notes, social gatherings, time where possible.
 - Diversifying options to students and empowering them to be leaders through starting clubs, engaging in existing activities and sharing their interests. (Indigenous and Allies, GSA, dance club, art club, D&D club, craft club, intramurals, band, choir, handbells, drama)
 - Working on a connection plan to ensure every child has a relationship with multiple staff members.

Questions?