

Battlefield High School
Principal's Advisory Council (PAC)
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday November 17, 2020

Meeting called to order by Wendi Gruninger, PAC Chair

Virtual Meeting 14 participants

Updates from Mr. Ferrera:

- Virtual Learning – reference email that was sent out to all parents and students on 11/17/2020. Clarification is provided in this email regarding assignments, and activities.
- The new Gainesville High School will open in the fall of 2021. Students presently in the 10th grade who are being impacted by this opening will have a one-time choice to stay at Battlefield or attend the new High School. The CASSIT program will be open for transfer students next year. The new high school's specialty programs are projected to be: Global Citizenship with a STEM outlook.

Updates from SACI – Wendi Gruninger

*Please reference the attached slides

- Discussion largely about the mental health of students and staff and the resources which are available to them. An overview of the Office of Student Services was provided. Student health throughout the pandemic was a large discussion.

Updates from Julie Byrne Director of Counseling at BHS

- The guidance department has maintained open communication with families during the pandemic and virtual learning. Counseling department has a Canvas page, weekly groups are offered to all. Students have access to what the department has called the Bobcat Virtual Brain Break.

Open Share

VHSO Athletics has approved the opening of Winter Sports which is to take place on December 7, 2020. Student athletes will be able to participate but it is possible that games and events will take place without spectators or limited spectators.

Overview of the Office of Student Services

- https://www.pwcs.edu/departments/student_services
- Office oversees 500+ school-based employees
- Counselors, Social Workers, Health Services
- Focus areas include: human trafficking, foster care, 1st generation college bound students, homeless, homebound, military transition, attendance, health services, critical incident team, and others
- GOAL – Care about students beyond the classroom and eliminate barriers to learning
- Comprehensive Plan – Identify, Equip, and Train
 - Identify – Social/Emotional Needs Assessments
 - Equip – School-based mental health professionals
 - Train – Identify possible issues and refer, as necessary



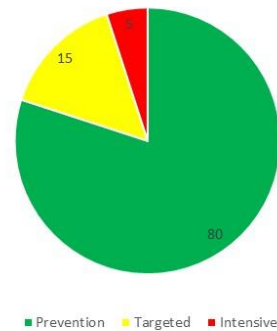
Support for Teachers, Staff, and Students

- CDC and the US Census have teamed on national mental health survey (VA data – 5/28/20 – 10/12/20)

- Nervous/Anxious/On Edge more than ½ the week – 32%
- Depressed/Hopeless – 20%

- Access to many funding sources – food, clothing, shelter, services
- Comprehensive website geared for staff and teachers – www.smores.com/98nqw

Mental Health Services in PWCS



Student Health through the Pandemic

- 106 full-nurses, 1/school in PWCS
- Work closely with the Virginia Department of Health
- Vision and hearing screenings continue
- Assist with data tracking on COVID-19 cases and perform symptom surveillance
- Recent funding for 5 student health office attendants/clinic aides and a county-level Pandemic Coordinator

***Please reach out for any support –
studentsupportservices@pwcs.edu (checked 7 days/week)



Attachment 4:

Input for BFHS – Gradebook Redundancy



Issue: Synergy Student Information System (the Hub) does not provide “grade pass back” from Canvas

Per Ken Bassett, Director of Student Learning, PWCS -

- Issue is HIGH PRIORITY and IT staff and engineers from both Canvas and Synergy are working on this functionality with hopes to have some testing done in the second semester for full deployment in the next school year
- Issues pending currently are missing grades and calculation errors. Both render the automation between systems not practical/desirable until it can be corrected
- Ordinarily, an implementation of the scale would be done over 2-3 years
- Challenges are a result of how PWCS had to build schedules to accommodate the number of family choices offered which led to a highly complex master schedule design that has a direct impact on the grade book set up
- PWCS encourages teachers to look carefully at the number of graded assignments given and required minimum number of grades per course have been reduced and they are very receptive to any additional suggestions