

## Instruction Committee Progress Report, July 21, 2020

- **Focus of today's meeting: narrowing down the 4 potential hybrid models to 2 preferred choices.**
  - 2 choices will be sent to the Operations Committee to determine feasibility of each one from an operational perspective.
  - D. Berry reported that most districts in Westchester/Putnam are leaning toward alternating-day model and most are considering a "flex day".
  - Consistency with our neighboring districts would be beneficial.
- **Things to consider in making this decision ("We are in uncharted territory."):**
  - In any of these models, teaching will be very challenging.
  - Every model presents major challenges.
  - Every model will include synchronous and asynchronous teaching.
  - Focus should be on which model makes the most sense for children and is most feasible to handle operationally.
  - Goal is to use the same hybrid model across all 3 buildings.
- **Committee Chooses (1) Alternating Days or (2) 2 Days On/2 Days Off**
  - After much discussion, **the alternating days option is chosen as best from an instructional point of view.**
  - Second choice: 2 days on/2 days off model.
  - Next step is for the Operations Committee to determine feasibility (cleaning, transportation, screening, food service, etc.)
- **Other issues raised when considering hybrid options:**
  - AM/PM model:
    - too difficult to clean and sanitize the buildings between shifts
    - would limit access to specials and services
  - Week on/week off model: discounted because too much time out of school
  - Can we extend the school day to allow more time to clean?
    - would have to be approved by the teachers union
  - Can schools provide all of the curriculum that would normally be covered in a hybrid model?
    - most of curriculum could be covered if done correctly
  - Idea -- remote only teachers to teach on days kids are home?
  - Regular day schedule (until 3:20 in MS/HS), if we go forward with the flex day?
- **Discussion of 100% Remote Learning Scenario -- Principals reporting back after meeting with team leaders:**
  - **Middle School/High School:**
    - Teams ok with a 9-period Wednesday schedule.
    - May need more than 3 minutes of "passing" time.
    - They learned a lot about remote learning from the spring and are already working hard to expand and make it better.
    - Both teams will be meeting with their staff in the next weeks to flesh out more details.
  - **Springhurst:**
    - More challenges because Springhurst doesn't operate on a period schedule.
    - Age of the children makes full day online very difficult.
    - Parents should plan on having children available from 8:30 to 2.
    - They will follow a "typical day" but not every minute of that time will be live instruction. (In a normal school day, kids have recess, lunch, etc.)
      - More breaks will be scheduled
      - built-in time for small group work

- time for SEL will be built in.
  - Teachers are concerned about the attention spans of children.
  - Live instruction is going to look a lot different than it did in the spring.
  - Springhurst has already started to work up mock schedules and will be continuing that work.
  - They know it is important to provide parents with specifics when the plans are final.
- **Final Thoughts**
  - School will look very different in September.
  - We need to communicate with students in an age-appropriate way so they know what to expect.