

UPPER PERKIOMEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Education Center

2229 E. Buck Road Pennsburg, PA 18073

**Pupil Services/Special Education Committee Meeting**

October 25, 2021

Ex-Officio: Mrs. Melanie Cunningham, President      CHAIR: Mrs. Judy Maginnis,      MEMBERS: Dr. Kerry Drake, Mike Elliott  
Superintendent – Dr. Allyn J. Roche      Assistant Superintendent – Dr. Andrea Farina  
Director of Special Education–Carol Giblin      Supervisor of Special Education – Amy Coyle

September 30, 2021 committee meeting minutes approved.

Dr. Farina presented information about the district's upcoming PA Climate Survey. This survey is offered through the PA Department of Education. It provides the district with funding district initiatives and SAP. School Climate refers to the quality and character of school life and is based upon people's experiences of school and reflects norms, goals, values, interpersonal relationships, teaching and learning practices, and organizational structures. We have administered the Climate Survey every year in the spring since 2016. We collect the data and utilize that to create an action plan to improve the climate and culture of the district. There are 3 domains in the survey: Student Support, Social/Emotional Learning and School Safe and Respectful Climate. Ultimately, we are looking for scores that are 3.4 and above.

Todd Amsler spoke to the High School results. Growth was seen in 3 of the 4 areas between the 19-20 survey and the 20-21 survey, with the most growth shown in the Safe School Climate Average Domain Score. The Social Emotional Learning Average Domain Score was below 2.5, however the score for 20-21 was higher than for 19-20. Although growth has been shown, there is still needed growth in the SEL domain.

Brian Callan spoke to the Middle School results. There is an upward trend in all scores from 19-20 to 20-21, especially in the SEL and Safe School domain scores. Credit for improvement was given to the implementation of programs starting at the elementary level and continuing at the MS.

Maureen Zavadel spoke to the K-5 results. PBIS and Second Step programs are showing a positive impact in scores. Implementation of these programs now include full day Kindergarten as well.

Dr. Farina reviewed the notable district trends. Data included comparisons between all three levels in: how students perceive how teachers feel about them, students feeling bored in class, students being bullied or seeing bullying, solving conflicts and working out disagreements, controlling and managing anger. There were 242 parent responses to the survey. Some of the questions asked to parents are: are there supports for students in school, would you recommend your child's school to others, I feel like I'm actively involved in my child's learning, my child is safe in school, I am satisfied with the communication with my child's teacher.

Each principal then presented the action steps that are being developed from the data collected from the survey. High school action steps include: instituting the School Climate Committee and the Student Climate Committee, team building activities (great outdoors day, blue/gold day), continuing with Link Crew, Perk Pals, school tutoring program. Middle School action steps include: Second Step in grades 6 and 7 and then next year grade 8 as well, recognizing tribe values, student of the month, FISH philosophy implementation (choose your attitude, have fun with what you are doing, make their day), recognizing good behavior in the cafeteria, Restorative Practices staff training, looking to implement Link Crew. Elementary action steps include: enhance PBIS implementation, enhance Second Step, getting more parents involved, started SAVERS (Social, Academic, Emotional behavior risk screener), Calm Cat program implementation.

Motion to adjourn by Dr. Drake and seconded by Mr. Elliott.

