

December State-Wide Teleconference
December 1st, 2022 at 7pm

In Attendance

Suzzuk Huntington - Superintendent
Miranda Bacha - Academic Principal
Andrew Friske - Residential Principal
Chohla Moll-Cultural Integration Specialist
Kristen Homer (via phone) - Nurse Practitioner Clinic Manager
Rosie Palof - Home to School Coordinator

Andrew Friske

Intro and welcome

Kristen Homer

- 1) Influenza
 - a) We had a surge of influenza in early November which seems to have subsided.
 - b) We continue to have a few cases which seem to be related to Thanksgiving travel.
 - i) Numbers are way down.
 - c) We are continuing to isolate symptomatic students with fevers to help prevent spread.
- 2) Covid
 - a) We will be holding a COVID Bivalent Booster Clinic for students on December 13th.
 - b) This is for students who were eligible but not yet 90 days out from a COVID infection when we had our last booster clinic in October.
 - c) There are about 35 students on this list.
 - d) Emails went out to parents of eligible students this past Monday.
 - e) If you didn't get on the list reach out (907)-966-3264
- 3) Dental
 - a) Dental will be holding a fluoride varnish clinic on December 13th.
 - b) SEARHC Goal to apply fluoride every 3 months
- 4) Winter Break
 - a) Student Health will send medications home with students for the winter break.
 - b) **Please remind them to bring their medications back with them when they return to school in January!**

Andrew Friske- Thanks Ms. Homer and crew for giving such amazing care to our students.

Chohla Moll

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Residential Space

- a) Dance Groups
 - i) Currently have students participating in 6 cultural dance groups,
 - ii) 5 on campus and 1 local.
 - iii) Inupiaq/SLI, Yup'ik, Unangan, Supiaq and Athabascan.
 - iv) Local youth Lingit dance group sponsored by SNEP (Sitka Native Education Program).
 - v) Many performances already this fall both on and off campus!

- b) Cultural Room
 - i) Mercedes Phillips is doing an amazing job supporting students in their own student-led projects while providing a lot of wonderful traditional foods for students to eat!
 - ii) Artist in Residence qaspeq sewing workshop with Nikki Corbett from SewYup'ik.
 - (1) 15 qaspeqs in 3 days
 - (2) Many first time sewers participated
 - (3) Students coming back to make more
 - (4) Mercedes has sewn over 30 qaspeqs this fall with students

- c) Native American Heritage Month Activities
 - i) Off campus events such as a regalia review, weaving workshop, etc
 - ii) along with an on campus Native American Heritage Day Community Celebration

- d) Integration of cultural values in the residential space
 - i) Helping students make connections between residential expectations and many shared cultural values.
 - ii) Supporting students in problem solving solutions to residential problems.

- 3) Academic Space
 - a) Curriculum Development and classroom support of developed lessons
 - i) Over 38 classes with teachers
 - ii) Digital Photography, science classes, art classes, social studies
 - iii) Integrating content and culturally responsive practices

Andrew Friske - It is great to see the students back in the community through the dance groups after Covid. Ms. Chola and Ms. Suzzuk have done a great job getting students excited about participating. There are more students in dance now than there were pre-Covid.

Miranda Bacha

- 1) MAP Testing next week
 - a) Students will miss one period a day to take their test
 - b) Please encourage students to get a good night's sleep so they can do their best!

- 2) Southeast Region Five Honor Festival
 - a) MEHS sent more students than any other school in the region
 - b) The honor festival consisted of 3 days of rehearsals and a live performance

- c) Band and music program is growing.
- 3) All State Treble Choir
 - a) The choir consists of 150 Alaskan high school students
 - b) Four students going out of the 450 who auditioned statewide
- 4) Dances
 - a) We had a Halloween Dance
 - b) Snow Ball Dance Dec 3
- 5) 2nd Trimester started Nov 14
- 6) Drivers Ed
 - a) Is a very popular class
 - b) Started offering it last school year, and continuing to do so this year
- 7) Language Classes starting in January
 - a) Yupik 101 and 109 for college credit
 - i) Partner with UAF
 - b) Lingit 1 and 2 for college credit
 - i) Partner with UAS
 - c) Bringin back Spanish this year
 - i) These classes have started this trimester
 - ii) Students are cooking and learning about Spanish culture along with language.
- 8) Thanksgiving
 - a) First time everyone was together since 2019
 - b) Lots of good food and thankfulness

Suzzuk Huntington

- 1) Intro
- 2) Reporting about Federal Programs
 - a) Overview Title 1 funding
 - b) Explain how small pots of money contribute to big picture
- 3) See Attached Power Point for details**
- 4) Migrant Parents will be receiving an email
 - a) Vote on consolidating migrant funds with the rest of the funds
 - b) The reason we are considering this
 - i) Majority student body includes migrant and/or low income students.
 - ii) These groups score on par with the student body.
 - c) *If migrant parents do not want to consolidate funds, they will remain separate*
- 5) This funding provides all kinds of resources to the students at MEHS. We can not do it without parent support.
- 6) Thank you!

Andrew Friske

- 1) Christmas travel
 - a) Send in to travel information and confirmation studentdepartures@mehs.us

- i) Both departure and arrival back in January
 - b) Dorm closes Dec 16th
 - i) 6pm flight 67 is the last flight
 - c) Dorm opens Jan 7th
- 2) Activities
- a) ~90% student body in at least one activity
 - b) basketball, cheer leading seasons started
 - i) 70 students tried out for girls basketball and 60 for boys
 - c) Students who are involved feel more connected
 - d) And they are tired at night 😊
- 3) Almost Christmas break!
- a) Students need encouragement
 - b) Let them know they will get to be home for 3 weeks after this final push!
- 4) Thank you for your trust
- 5) Next Teleconference Feb 2

Questions

Parent: Asked Mr. Friske to comment on theft in the dorms.

Andrew Friske: Theft is talked about at orientation. Students are provided with free locks which they can use to lock their closet and drawers. Please encourage students to label their clothing. Staff have noticed that laundry goes missing, especially if it is left in the laundry room for extensive periods of time. (Staff will bag abandoned clothes for a period of time if it is left in a machine. Students can ask their RA if they are missing something.) If a theft is reported, it is investigated, but without good information it is hard to locate missing items while respecting the space of all braves. If students are caught stealing there are serious repercussions.

Andrew Friske: Thank you and Merry Christmas