

CEC Inverness SAC 1/28/2021

Attendees:

- Dr. Egger
- Mrs. Rhodes
- Mrs. Gorelik
- Mr. Lovett
- Mr. Hamilton

Agenda:

Good News:

School Tours very successful – even 7th graders preparing for High School as well as kids from other Charter Schools

Student Council and focus on character strengths

Updates:

Return to campus already very positive. Difficult decision and there are families on both sides of the decision. There's a positive energy with students and culture. Want to applaud the entire staff for their support on that. We're doing our best to stay healthy and stay on campus.

The entire building is now open and functional. The staff are special. Brought on a new music teacher and a high school Spanish teacher and a full-time IT person on staff and a lab coordinator.

25% of students are in the student council. We have 6 clubs active. Average student grade is 88%. Fail grade _____. College course failure rate only 4%?

Working on course grid for next semester. Mrs. Gorelik in charge of student success center. Proud to provide support for students.

Business pathway now being processed through CETT approval.

Focusing on Financial

Collaboration w/ Douglas County and our other campuses.

We're already looking at summer programs and summer camps. For recruitment but also for activities for students.

ML: Intended for entertainment or intervention?

JE: I don't know that we need it for intervention, but we do need to consider the finance piece to balance supplemental w/ enrichment and introduce new students.

WR: One thing Douglas County is working in transitioning students in from 8th to 9th grade we're wanting to meet that need by having some kind of Freshman academy. Also trying to keep in mind the impact of remote learning for so long and that some students may be further behind. Exploring options, including bringing in first year college students to provide advice and share experience about that transition. It was very successful.

DH: Freshman academy, where are the kids coming from?

WR: This would be all new incoming Freshman. Activities we could do throughout the year. Especially because we don't have classes of just 9th graders, they're mixed so having something just to bring them together.

ML: That's great, this could be a very inexpensive way to really provide support and organic communication.

ML: follow up from previous session – parent engagement and communication.

JE: Its not that they needed a forum for communication. We need a platform to spread the word about our school. That's where we really should be focused. Maybe as we get more complexity, more people in then we may need more internal communication tools.

DH: Studies from numerous sources – the more the parents are involved w/ the school and the community the better the student does. That carries over into growth of student population. I think there are a lot of parents that are really excited about CEC and would spread the word but don't know what they can do. So, if we start by communicating the goal to the broader community. There are 3 pain points: 1) College is looming. 2) Big schools where my child will get lost. 3) College is expensive and I want to be prepared. Did I hear correct that we have the best SAT scores in the county?

JE: Yes, that is true

DH: What if everybody was equipped with that information?

ML: One final thought on that. It probably starts with us recording a testimonial that addresses those points. Maybe it's a video that we post and a call to others as an example. Let's leverage that as a part of the culture of growing the school.

JE: We are currently doing that with our students as well. So, what you mentioned I'm going to thrust into our Marketing department because they have a systematized process for that

Link for testimonies <https://cec4me.org/>

ML: Following up on the question of kids cycling in and out of remote

JE: We have been a little flexible on that

ML: Following up on the question of black student fail rates

WR: Fail rate has been improving. In fact, that number is now at 0. [Need clarification]

JE: Would like to also see how the student success center is impacting things once that is up and running.

ML: Let's revisit that in March and also use that as additional reference in testimonials

ML: additional agenda item: current and future career pathways. Anything to add on that?

JE: Current update: we had to reshape this because we couldn't find the credential to fill it. We had to restructure that while still living up to our objectives. It's no longer a bio-medical pathway but now a medical health sciences pathway: sports science / physical therapy. Need to survey our students to learn more of what they may want in that area.

ML: Need to build that to also support study of science.

WR: We have a lot of students interested in medical field but their interests are extremely varied: everything from all aspects of medical. Finding a certification that meets majority of students needs, gives them a chance to find work while also moving towards higher education.

Also launched a Microsoft applications course. No matter what field you go into you will need to understand those productivity applications.

In order to meet those 3 areas: Associate Degree or certification and workforce ready. Microsoft certification can really help with that workforce readiness. Exploring different short term industry credentials that are also broad in that same way. Certifications in Adobe Suite as another example of that.

AG: Potential to explore relationships with Development bootcamps?

JE: Yes, that would be a great opportunity if we can find connections with any of those programs or communities.

ML: Those pathways will support those stories.

AG: Do need to follow-up on the recruitment of diverse staff / faculty.

JE: We do have to put together a presentation for CSI on our plan for diversity.

DH: Can students help at the student support center?

WG: In fact, yes. Two students have already expressed interest in peer tutoring. We are about to announce some tutoring in the upcoming newsletter. By the end of February we'll be reaching out to students who may also be able to volunteer.

WR: We've also been working on the charter school program to support students consistently struggling to prevent the snowball effect. We want to identify those students early on to intervene early. We're also going to be offering a middle school enrichment program next year and that could be a great opportunity for student tutoring service.

ML: There may be students where some excel academically but others excel emotionally. Can we provide opportunities for emotional support? Peer counseling...

AG: Would need to understand what kind of support or training they need to support in that context?

WR: It was explored – aspects of confidentiality / sensitivity. Support groups where an adult is a facilitator can provide a supportive but safe environment.

DH: Revenue generating idea: I'm part of a small region of a church. Looking for a place to meet. Are we open to renting out community space?

JE: Some of our network schools do that. Please put them in contact with me.

WR: Our home school enrichment wing – one of the ideas around that was the home school community could use that for a meeting place.

ML: I think we're at a natural pause.

1. Academic performance (achievement and growth),
2. College and career preparedness,
3. Access, equality, equity, and inclusion to opportunity for all students with deeper focus on historically under served and exceptional students,
4. Social, emotional, and personal growth development.

Shared our 4 pillars so we can always return to these to validate against those goals when reviewing our accountability.

What we didn't talk about today was SLO, can we move that to March? Spending objectives likewise let's move. Let's discuss ideas for future spending: technology, curriculum, personnel?

ML: Guidance on priorities for spending. How about utilization of the gym?

JE: Covid limitations. Not ready for us.

ML: Questions about the fresh lunch. Will that be resolved?

JE: Number of students take part in hot food services doesn't support the resources. Covid. Lost staff. Luckily, we are still able to serve food. It is still cooked fresh – just in Aurora and brought to our campus. It is still free to the students. We will need to continue to explore collaboration where our school will provide to other campuses.

Next meetings: March 25 and May 13