



PHS Student Ambassadors

Date: February 9, 2021

Time: 3:30-5:00pm

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Attendance: Bob Maxwell, Courtney Hodge, Juston Pollestad, Tianyi Chen, Lily Johnston, Christopher Infranco, Dominic-Leonard Heidenreich, Jenica Thapa, Kellan Yoshikawa, Molly Jobson, Marissa Carper

Representatives Absent: None

Meeting Topics:

- **Overview of the goals of the student ambassador program**
- **Activity: Technology**
- **Return to In-Person Learning at PHS**
 - **Transition to in-person tentatively scheduled for March 1 (this date is subject to change):**
 - **What would help? What would ease the transition, especially for Freshman.**
 - Juston proposed the idea of scheduling building tours for Freshman in small groups for the next couple Wednesdays. Administrators and counselors would walk each group through a tour and also answer questions for the incoming freshman. Can also provide a virtual option for students that are participating in distance learning.
 - The student ambassadors felt positively about this proposed idea of scheduling tours for Freshman students to allow the students some time to get used to the building.
 - Would be great to have student ambassadors as tour leaders.
 - Juston will email the ambassadors to see if any are interested in being tour leaders.
 - Ambassadors stressed the importance that health and safety protocols are followed during these tours.
 - **Informational items on tour that should be prioritized?**
 - Activities/clubs that are available at PHS
 - Club representatives could attend and set up tables in the gym so students can see those offerings in person and have the opportunity to ask questions.
 - School pictures will be available for all students (hybrid and distance)
 - Different wings of the school
 - Health/safety guidelines – Expectations/Consequences

- Make a note for students to tour Laura Lacy's office
 - Have a sample hybrid classroom setup for students to tour so they know what to expect
- **Hybrid/Distance Schedule**
 - Schedule is flexible in regards to shifting between hybrid and distance schedules. Should be able to allow to students to make a switch one time.
 - Only have Freshman attend school the first week back.?
 - This may delay/interrupt the schedule a bit, so having the opportunity on the asynchronous days.
 - There seems to be a lot of confusion for students going around about the new hybrid schedule.
 - The schedule is posted on the website. Working on videos to share the help explain what a day looks like for hybrid and distance learning students. Were able to maintain student schedules so students wouldn't have to switch classes/teachers.
 - This can also be a topic covered during the tour.
 - Juston provided some clarity on the hybrid schedule and the use of Chromebooks.
 - Schedule is flexible in regards to shifting between hybrid and distance schedules. Should be able to allow to students to make a switch one time but is subject to space availability.
- **Other Questions:**
 - Increased Ventilation
 - Going above and beyond to increase ventilation at PHS.
 - Mask Free Zones?
 - No. Masks will be required at all times. The only times masks would come off would be when staff/students are eating. This is to avoid the spread of the virus amongst asymptomatic students.
 - Implementation of an AP Physics Course
 - Classes are driven by demand. If students are interested in an AP Physics course, Juston will look into that as an option. We also have to have a teacher trained in AP to be able to offer that class.
 - Lunch
 - Assigned seating, 2 students to a table. Students can choose who they sit with but that assignment won't change and students will be assigned to the same table. No skybox and no eating lunch on the big steps. Tables only.
 - Running Start Conflict
 - Counselors are working with students to identify those scheduling conflicts and work to solve those issues.

- College Opportunities - Emails
 - A lot of emails to students and can be overwhelming. Would be helpful if the information was more organized to cut down on emails.
 - In a non-pandemic year, colleges would meet with students to go through that information. Due to the current situation, a lot of the information is shared virtually. Juston advised that students contact counselors to help narrow down college interests.
 - Concern about group work – how to manage that with social distancing
- **Bob reviewed the critical items as prioritized by student ambassadors:**
1. Supporting students especially in regards to Mental Health
 2. Encourage teachers to create more opportunities/activities that include peer interaction
 3. Create more non-academic activities.
 - Large number of activities offered at PHS. This could be a lack of communication to students on what is available.
 4. Strengthening teacher-student communication.
 5. Communicate the current virtual clubs and activities to all students and create more clubs and activities for students to participate online.
 6. Focus on informing students about the danger of COVID-19 and the necessary safety protocols.
 - Will be creating videos to share with students to outline the health and safety protocols.
 7. Communication can always be improved.
 8. Question: Are there ways students can help teachers to lighten the workload.
- **Action Item(s) based on prioritized list – Group Discussion**
1. Last year Sustainability was a topic of discussion. There are openings on the committee for students and Bob extended the invite to join to each of the ambassadors or any other students interested in joining.
 2. **Item #2: Breakout Rooms and Group Assignments**
 - Students should be allowed to choose breakout rooms to avoid awkward peer interactions and students could be with other people that they are more comfortable with which can make a huge difference and improve peer interaction.
 - Encourage teachers to ask students who they would be comfortable in a break out room and then assign students that way for breakout room discussion/activities/assignments.
 - Concern about group work – how to manage that with social distancing
 3. **Item 1: Students Mental Health**
 - Freshman think that mental health while distance learning is the most important aspect. Students are overwhelmed with the workload which is

attributing to the issue. Seeing all the week's work posted is overwhelming for students. Teachers post assignments daily versus weekly?

- The decision to go a week out was for students to be able to see what is coming.
- Might be a communication issue. There are mental health resources on the website, one of which addresses organizational strategies. Could be showing students the organizational resources on the website to help manage the weekly work.
- Mental Health Resources - Website: Teachers announce during class or post to Google Classroom to avoid being overlooked.

4. Testing in Hybrid/Distance model

- Students taking tests at home versus in the classroom could be inequitable. Students at home have access to resources and students in the classroom do not have that same access.

Future Topics:

- Continue to review the prioritized critical items.
- Identify actionable items and look at process for working through addressing those critical items that are of high priority.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 30th from 3:30pm-5:00pm

Committee Members:

Name	Representative
Bob Maxwell	Superintendent
Juston Pollestad	Pullman High School Principal
Courtney Hodge	Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
Lily Johnston	9 th Grade Representative
Tianyi Chen	9 th Grade Representative
Dominic-Leonard Heidenreich	10 th Grade Representative
Marissa Carper	10 th Grade Representative
Christopher Infranco	11 th Grade Representative
Jenica Thapa	11 th Grade Representative
Molly Jobson	12 th Grade Representative
Kellan Yoshikawa	12 th Grade Representative