

Health and Wellness Committee
May 28, 2025
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM.

Mrs. Roll thanked the Principals, staff members and students for attending this last meeting of the 2024-25 school year.

Eliza Gobin from the LHS Green Team shared an update on their work this year. They supported the implementation of the Food Waste Recycling Program at the Elementary Schools. They also had a Field Trip to the RI Resource Recovery Center to learn more about the importance of reducing food waste and maximizing recycling efforts to the all communities in the state. The Green Team is looking forward to supporting the High School's efforts to implement the Food Waste Recycling Program at LHS in the Fall, as well as engaging more students through a variety of smaller "green" projects.

Mrs. Roll referenced the revised Family Engagement Policy (KAA) that had its First Reading at the April School Committee meeting. The revised Policy reflects the current federal and state requirements, but also reflects "best practice". She noted that the Policy requires an additional supporting Protocol to be developed under the leadership of Superintendent McNamara during the coming school year. She emphasized the importance of this process in implementing the Policy in all of the District's schools. Given the importance of partnerships reflected in the Policy, the development of an effective Protocol will require input from administrators, teachers, support staff, and families.

Using the New Teacher Project's rubric distributed by Dr. McNamara at the March meeting, Principals shared some examples of current efforts to engage families that came out of discussions with their staff about Family Engagement. Examples included links to school efforts to engage parents in supporting the school's work around reducing absenteeism, SEL, and supporting student achievement.

Mrs. Roll indicated that the completion of the Annual Wellness Policy Evaluation tool by each Principal will not be required at this time. She noted that in the past, some Principals had noted that improving Communication with families about Wellness Policy components would be valuable. As a starting point for the 2025-26 School year she asked that the Principals continue to use the New Teacher Project rubric to assess what family engagement looks like currently and what the school could do to move the needle forward by using work that the school is currently focused on to continue the discussion of Family Engagement, including Nutrition, Health/PE Education, Staff Wellness, VOG/SEL, Food Waste Recycling, Absenteeism.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 AM.