11/15/19 - Weekly Board Notes

Scott Maben - "Finding Kind" Filmmakers To Visit District Next Week:

We are helping our middle schools promote next week's Kind Campaign/Character Day events, which will include an assembly of Lakes, Woodland and Canfield girls at Lake City High School on Wednesday from noon to 2:00 pm. The girls will watch the documentary "Finding Kind," which explores female relationships. The two women who made the film, **Molly Thompson** and **Lauren Paul**, are traveling to Coeur d'Alene to talk with our students on Wednesday. (Out of 300 schools that applied, Lakes was one of 40 lucky ones that won a visit from the filmmakers.) The middle school boys also have guest speakers and activities going on at their home schools focusing on character and leadership. We also received permission to screen "Finding Kind" at Hayden Discount Cinema for free next Thursday night at 6:45 pm. Kudos to English teacher (and Kind Club advisor) **Jeni Nelson** at Lakes for coordinating all of this.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=woZTiMgWYDo&authuser=0

Scott Maben - Mixed Results On Thanksgiving Week Survey:

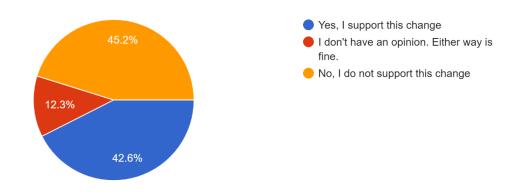
We logged 3,234 responses to our recent survey asking District parents and staff (separately) if they would support changing our school calendar (beginning with the 2020-21 school year) to give students a full week off for Thanksgiving with the following stipulations:

- 1. The school year would end two days later, with the last day of school falling on the second Tuesday of June.
- 2. Elementary Parent/Teacher conferences would move to different dates before the week of Thanksgiving.

The survey of **parents** showed more of them opposed this change than supported it:

Do you want students to have a full week off for Thanksgiving with the above stipulations?

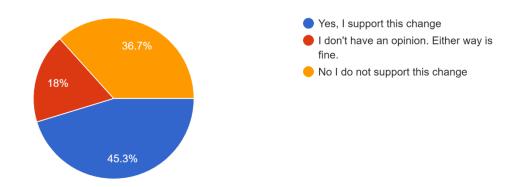
2,512 responses



The survey of **staff** showed more of them supported this change than opposed it:

Do you want to have the week of Thanksgiving off with the above stipulations?

722 responses



By combining the results of both surveys, the split between YES and NO is nearly even: 1,400 oppose the change, 1,396 support it, and the rest (438) said either way is fine.

Kate Orozco - Elementary Updates:

Thinking Strategies Institute:

On Friday we are finishing a week of learning at the Thinking Strategies Institutes here in Denver. All three middle schools and three of our elementary schools are represented here and teams have been "all in" during the learning and discussions. Yesterday at the end of a long day in which our teams spent the morning in learning lab classrooms, our entire CDA team gathered to debrief their learning. Teachers were inspired by the robust discourse, student engagement, rigor, and sophistication of student thinking they observed in labs.

Secondary teachers and administrators were asked to imagine their middle schools in which *every* classroom looked and sounded like what they had witnessed in the labs. They were then asked to share with their elementary colleagues what skills and dispositions elementary kids would need to bring with them to middle school in order to be successful in such classrooms. The list included:

- Common vocabulary
- Risk-taking
- Stamina
- Flexible thinking
- Collaboration
- Grit
- Confidence
- Recognition of the importance of their learning beyond grades

- Common questioning strategies
- Ability to work both independently
- Initiative
- Curiosity
- Productive discourse
- · Critical thinking and problem solving
- Ownership of their learning and the learning of other students

Elementary teachers and administrators were asked to imagine their elementary schools in which *every* classroom looked and sounded like what they had experienced in the labs. They were then asked to share with their secondary colleagues what they believed their students would expect from their middle school teachers if their elementary experience had been molded by such learning. The list included:

- Student choice
- Continuity from elementary to secondary
- Community
- Safety
- Less time listening to teachers
- More time doing the working, thinking, and talking
- Love from caring adults

- Validation
- Meaningful leadership opportunities
- Engaged teachers
- Real world relevance
- Independence
- Authentic learning tasks

It was striking how many skills and dispositions identified by our CDA team aligned with our Portrait of a Graduate.







Scott Maben - Converting Our Websites To A New Template:

This fall we will switch to a new look for all 18 of our school websites and for the District website. This web template upgrade, which Blackboard agreed to provide us free of charge, will give our sites a cleaner, more modern look. The new pages scale nicely to the user's device or screen width, and we have the option of presenting streaming video in a prominent location. We are working with each school to customize and organize links to their pages in the two rows of icons that appear above and below the school name and logo. See the Venture and Sorensen sites, which are now live. Our goal is to roll over to the new template for all other sites (one by one) by the end of the calendar year. We also will work with school-based web editors to learn how best to manage features available with the new template. That includes making videos featuring students and teachers that can be streaming in the main image area. We also are asking web editors to make it a priority this fall to work with teachers to update (or establish) all teacher pages. Many of these pages are badly out of date or show no content at all. We will provide teachers detailed instructions on how to manage their pages, with minimum expectations for what information should be shared there.

Scott Maben - Four Schools Coordinating Outings To The North Pole:

As they've done for many years, the Hagadones have given us 500 free family tickets to the Coeur d'Alene Resort's Journey to the North Pole cruises this season. They ask that these tickets be given to elementary students whose families may not otherwise have the means to enjoy this experience. (The Hagadones also request that we not widely publicize this gift, and so we agree not to call attention to it on social media or in other District communications.) We divide up the tickets among our elementary schools, with a greater share going to schools with higher percentages of F/R lunch households. In addition, four schools (Borah, Winton, Fernan and NExA) will offer their ticket recipients the opportunity to go on the cruise together, with transportation from the school to the Resort and back again provided by the District. This helps ensure that families take advantage of the opportunity and socialize as a school community. The trips will be on Dec. 3, 4 and 5. The Communications and Title teams are working with Hope on the Homefront to coordinate these events.

11/14/19 - Current Enrollment Numbers Reports:

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	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
CMS	268	301	295					864
LMMS	242	256	219					717
WMS	319	283	307					909
CHS				397	359	350	328	1434
LCHS				453	434	411	359	1657
VHS			0	20	47	47	64	178
JDC		1	1	7	7	8	5	29
TOTAL	829	841	822	877	847	816	756	5788