

## Questions from the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan (LeCAP) Committee

- **One of the main concerns related to teaching and students is how to build rapport remotely. Have you considered maintaining entire class groups from last year as best as possible so at least the students will have a solid rapport going into the year? Teachers can understand group dynamics and personality issues from the prior year teacher instead of having to experiment over zoom.**

Teachers develop class lists at the elementary level and consider many factors to create a balanced class.

**Class placements in the Mill Valley School District:** We know some parents would like to request a certain teacher or a certain friend in the class with their child for next year. All of our teachers are wonderful and represent a wide range of teaching styles. Your child will profit from working with all kinds of “mentors” during the six years they may study with us. **We do not take parent requests for student placement.**

Our staff spends many hours working in teams to establish balanced classes that assure a mosaic of students with varying interests, needs, strengths, cultural backgrounds, languages, and differing physical/emotional/academic learning abilities. We want our classrooms to be accurate representations of the world around them!

Classes are reviewed by specialist staff and finalized by the principal. There will be no changes per parent request. We find that once students settle into the new grade, they acclimate quickly, and expand their social circles.

**We ask for your trust and we thank you for respecting our professional judgment. We ask that you not put teachers in an awkward position of answering to your requests for a certain teacher or classmate. If you do say, "I know I'm not supposed to make requests but, please put my student with..." the staff will respond, "I'm sorry, we do not accept requests for personnel or students."**

We all appreciate your cooperation with our district placement procedure.

- **(1) Will there be back to school nights and/or parent teacher conferences?; (2) Will teachers be required to offer any 1:1/office hours time for elementary students?; (3) When can you share the start and end times for the daily schedule?; (4) Will Wednesday be a shorter day, or will there be weekly time set aside for teacher PD?; (5) Will PE and music/art/library be taught live? -**

Yes, back to school nights and parent/teacher conferences will occur remotely. You will receive more information from your child's school.

- **I feel we needed to share what other break out rooms had to offer or their concerns so we could work together. Thank you for facilitating this in such complicated times - Alejandra Petterson**

Please see [notes from breakout group sessions](#) during our LeCAP meetings.

- **So happy with the emotional support our children are receiving from school counselors - Alejandra Petterson**

Thank you for this feedback.

- **A teacher didn't provide contact information on the school website and they have not told it to my child. How can I reach him/her if my child can't enter her zoom classroom and the teacher doesn't reply to her question from google classroom?**

This concern has been forwarded to the middle school administrators. If you are having trouble meeting or finding contact information for your teacher, please contact the front office of your school or the District Office for assistance - (415) 389-7700.

Edna Maguire: 415-389-7733

Mill Valley Middle School: 415-389-7711

Old Mill: 415-389-7727

Park: 415-389-7735

Strawberry Point: 415-389-7660

Tam Valley: 415-389-7731

- **As children—especially our District's younger one's (Kindergarten thru 2nd/3rd graders)—have different learning needs and styles, has MVSD considered offering a schedule that allows ALL students to have BOTH AM and PM sessions? For example: Group A, attends school in-person during the AM session Monday and Tuesdays, and in-person during the PM session Thursdays and Fridays. Group B is the opposite. The Groups flip-flop every other Wednesday. This provides: 1) an even experience for all students and families/caregivers; 2) an opportunity for students who may learn better in the AM or PM a more even learning experience; and 3) is just more fair. If the District is not, or has not, considered this, why? Thank you!**

Current legislation requires that students receive live synchronous instruction each day, so the district will offer ½ day sessions rather than full day. For consistency for childcare arrangements and planning purposes, we have been planning for either an AM or PM session. Thank you for your recommendation. We will continue to explore variations of this with our staff to determine if we may be able to vary schedules.

- **Why do most of the goals of the LeCap not have budgets listed for public oversight? Why do we not indicate and publicly discuss with parents the legal use of low income grants in the LeCap? Not having any public discussion of budgets and not reviewing any budgets for parents DURING the public oversight opportunities is hurting the effectiveness of how funding is distributed to students, Why is a name required to give feedback if the administration is never required to respond to my questions directly? This requirement limits parents' ability to respond honestly.**

We appreciate the feedback, and know that your input may remain anonymous. A red asterisk indicates required information, and your name was not required. We have held our public hearing and presented budget details to our stakeholders and board members since August 6 when we received the documents. At the August Board meeting, the district reviewed the State and Federal budget as it relates to the LeCAP. The LeCAP does not identify low income grants but rather: Learning Loss Mitigation; Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER); Learning Loss Mitigation Coronavirus Relief (CR); CARES ESSER; SB 117 Funds and Learning Loss Mitigation

General Fund (GF) dollars. Each State and Federal apportionment type was discussed as well as the required timeline for MVSD to fully expense these dollars. This information may be found on the [LeCAP page on our website](#) in the public hearing presentation documents. The LeCAP also outlines the descriptions and projected budget for how these dollars would be allocated. This includes but is not limited to: i-Ready K-8 Program and distance learning curriculum; assessment; essential protective equipment for students and staff; professional development; and devices and connectivity for all students and staff.

- **I think one of our main goals this year should be consistency and continuity of learning-keeping the way we learn as consistent as possible. If that means doing remote learning through the winter (i.e. flu season) vs. starting and stopping in-person school every time there is an outbreak or a rise in the local infection rates, that seems way better for our kids. It's hard enough to cope with the fallout of the pandemic without having schooling change daily or weekly. Thanks!**

Distance learning will remain an option for any student wishing to continue in this way. As a public school district, we must make learning accessible for all students. Once in-person learning is available, we will provide this option for students who learn best in this way.

- **I do not understand the placement and cost breakdown of iReady under "Actions for In-Person Learning" on Page 19. I think of iReady as a supplement to Distance Learning rather than In-Person learning. For example, to address learning loss and provide specific activities for children during Asynchronous time if needed. It would be helpful to understand what the District plans to do with the results of iReady (how will it change your actions?). I did attend the Sept 4 informational session on iReady, but these questions remain. Thank you!**

I-Ready is a supplemental practice program that can be used either in conjunction with in-person learning or distance learning. Just as other practice platforms were used in years past, they are assigned by teachers after students have received direct instruction. The District is in the process of training teachers on how to utilize the results of i-Ready as part of the assessment portfolio that will guide instruction and monitor student progress throughout the year. This platform will mitigate learning loss by providing individualized, differentiated instruction based on the child's skill areas for growth. We will use this platform for the entire school year, as students may use it during in-person learning and if a school or classroom is quarantined and

may toggle in and out of distance learning. Platforms for learning are used in person throughout the school year in the classroom as well.