Communication Committee

5/22/2023

Agenda

- **Introductions**
- **Student questions**
- **Reviewing/Revising the Safety Communication Protocol**
- **Discuss distribution and communication of plan**
- **Review Parking Lots**

Communication Committee

5/22/2023

Minutes

- **Introductions**
- **Student questions-**
    - Questions for students were collected from committee members at previous meetings. Students were asked various questions about communication, safety, race, and diversity.
    - Student responses included feelings of being safe and having an adult to talk to, the need for administration to follow up with students after allegations are investigated, and the need for more ways to help diverse students feel welcome.
    - Vaping was discussed as a barrier to using the bathroom in Carmel High School.
    - The need for more security in the high school was brought up by students as well as making sure doors are shut and understanding when it is okay to open a door.
    - Students indicated that sexism is an ongoing issue that needs to be addressed.
    - Students indicated that they prefer receiving information in person and not via email.
    - Students stated that racism appears to be swept under the rug or not completely followed up on.
    - Students were not aware of the Anonymous Alerts system that was put into place in late April.

Following this a discussion took place about the district's need to continue putting practices and procedures in place to address racism, safety, and diversity issues.

- **Reviewing/Revising the Safety Communication Protocol-** The protocol was reviewed, and minor changes were made.

- **Discuss distribution and communication of plan-** The new protocol should be put out in the Fall, and it should be messaged as a community effort of the committee.

- **Review Parking Lots-**
    - Questions came up about sharing information about the work of this committee on social media like we share other information.
    - A discussion about where the information is currently posted on the web page was discussed. It is under "Quick Links" District Safety, Communication & Equity.
    - Parents discussed the need for more transparency and follow through with consequences.
    - Restorative practice was discussed as something the district is beginning to explore.

Questions for Students (compiled by committee members)

Communication Committee Meeting May 22, 2023

1. Why did you come to this meeting?

2. How do you feel CCSD communicates with you?

3. Do you like the tone of the communication?

4. Do you think the frequency of communication is adequate?

5. Are you satisfied with the method of communication?

6. If not, what could be improved?

7. Given all the information coming to you, are you most likely to open an email or listen to the entire voicemail from someone at the school or district?

8. Do you feel you have the opportunity and are being heard by individuals in the school?

9. What do you think could help improve communication?

10. Do you know of any groups or students who do not feel their voices are being heard?

11. Do you feel safe in school?

12. If not, what would make you feel safer?

13. Are there any concerns that you think are being overlooked?

14. What is your biggest concern about drug use in school?

15. Do you feel race is an issue in school?

16. Do you have an adult in the school who you are comfortable going to if you need to talk?

17. Is there anything else you want to share?

Carmel Central School District

Safety Communication Protocols

When an incident involving multiple events listed below occurs, communication will always be based on hierarchy of concern.

Incident	How communication will occur	When
Fighting	• Phone call to families involved • Email to entire school involved reminding of policies	• Within the same day
Dangerous animal on property	• Robocall to entire school	• Within the same day
Vandalism if it includes hate speech, explicit material, threats	• Email to entire school	• Within one school day
Weather related school closures	• Robocall, Email and text to entire school involved or entire district if multiple schools	• the morning of, or as occurs
Facility issue	• Email and text with specific info for impact on students to the entire school or entire district if involving multiple schools	• the morning of, or as occurs
Alcohol or drugs on property	• Phone call to all involved • Email reminder regarding drug/alcohol use policy	• Immediately
Bus accident including medical and/or law enforcement to scene	• Phone call to families involved	• Immediately
Bus trip incident which causes a 15-minute delay	• Phone call to families involved	• Upon notification of delay
Police and/or Fire Dept. called to school	• Robocall to entire school	• Within one day
Gang related issue	• Email, Robocall, text to entire district	• Within one day
Threat of weapon	• Email, Robocall, text to entire district	• Immediately – details as they come shared
Bomb threats	• Email, Robocall, text to entire district	• Immediately – details as they come shared
Weapon found on property	• Email, Robocall, text to entire district	• Immediately – details as they come shared
Threat to students or staff (verbal, physical, written)	• Email, Robocall, text to entire district	• Immediately – details as they come shared
Student related tragedy in the district	• Email, Robocall, text to entire district	• Immediately – details as they come shared
Hate Crimes	• Email, Robocall, text to entire district	• Immediately – details as they come shared