



HARTLAND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

Chuck Hughes, Superintendent

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Dear HCS Education Community:

Hartland High School and LEGACY/HVA Parent Perception Survey:

Parents, please check your email account for messages from Mrs. Gregory or Mrs. Conley regarding the 2021-22 Parent Perception Survey. Your input is valuable to district operations and direction.

Recent BOE Meeting Questions and Answers:

Q. What is the process for policy change discussions and adoption?

A. To answer this question, it is important to share that in almost all cases, policy is changed to meet updated federal and state law. The BOE hires a superintendent to ensure that the district is following all legal requirements. The superintendent monitors the legal changes and works with the BOE President to propose policy change as a discussion item in one meeting and to move the change to an action item in the next meeting. During the discussion phase, the BOE may ask clarifying questions or they can ask questions of the Superintendent outside of the meeting. If the policy change is not due to legal changes, the new policy is usually summarized by the superintendent as a discussion item (Superintendent discusses it at the meeting), clarification may be sought by the BOE, and the item is added as an action item to the next meeting. On occasion the BOE may override the wait and approve policy changes at the end of the discussion phase or a change may be tabled for more discussion. While it may seem that most policies are not discussed in depth at meetings, this is because the changes are simply being made to update the policies to meet legal requirements as direction for the Superintendent to follow. Policies are updated on the HCS website under the Board of Education tab as soon as possible after adoption.

Q. How can I learn more about how the BOE and Superintendent operates or ask questions about policy and district operations?

A. Contact Mr. Hughes at 810-626-2100 to ask questions or to set up a meeting to sit down and review any concerns. This approach is easiest as email can be confusing and interpreted incorrectly.

Q. How can the district state that they are not teaching critical race theory in school when they teach social-emotional learning skills?

A. In the most recent HCS Parent Perception Survey (December 2021-January 2022) the question asked of our over 3,600 families was, ***"I value my school's effort at teaching my student(s) social-emotional skills."*** An overwhelming majority of respondents to date (87%) state that they Strongly Agree or Agree with this approach, while 3% responded that they didn't know. Clearly our community values helping our children learn to self-monitor themselves, thus, our district continues to focus on the social-emotional well-being of our students as an integral part of their educational experience. We all understand that a student's academic achievement is tied to management and behavioral skills. Social-emotional strategies are critical to putting our students in the best position to learn and eliminate any barriers that would keep them from being successful. These skills have been integrated in schools for years and have helped generations of students be the best version of themselves.

I would like to highlight Lakes Elementary and the work they are doing with social-emotional learning and

positive behavioral supports. The effort is being led by Ms. Leslie Leemgraven, school social worker. The Lakes staff has helped elevate their students' social-emotional and behavioral skill sets so they can be more successful in the classroom. Here is a great overview of the social-emotional learning work that was sent to Lakes Elementary parents earlier this year - [SEL Overview](#). I would also like to share a video produced by the Lakes "Kindness Club" student participants regarding positive behavioral supports and expectations - [Behavioral Supports](#). The Kindness Club used what they learned to spearhead a bread drive for Gleaners over the holidays, raise funds for an animal shelter, and make personalized placemats for our senior center. As you can see, our social-emotional learning focus on kindness has had a positive impact on our students. Thank you, Lakes Elementary staff, for your herculean efforts!

Every school in our district has prioritized a similar focus on these important social-emotional skills, strategies and expectations, and we appreciate their hard work. Thank you to our counselors, social workers, school psychologists, interventionists, support staff, classroom teachers and principals for being a part of this important component of our student's education.

Weekly COVID Update:

Since my last update on January 26, 2022, the data shows:

Livingston County Average Percentage of Positive Results for all Tested: 23.9%
Livingston County Average Number of Positive Cases Per Day: 165.8
Livingston County Average Number of Positive Cases Per Week: 1,161

The district has been notified of positive or probable COVID cases at Lakes Elementary (1), Farms Intermediate (5), Hartland Middle School (6), and Hartland High School (18).

Self-Report to the LCHD at <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6359915/UPDATED-COVID-19-Self-Report-Form>. Starting today, we will no longer be sending out emails stipulating that your child may have been exposed. We ask that you continue to monitor for symptoms, stay home if symptoms are present, and pursue testing. This will help to keep in-school transmission low.

Note: I inadvertently left off 14 positive cases between 1-19-2022 and 1-26-2022 for Farms Intermediate last week.

Respectfully,



Chuck Hughes
Superintendent