



Principal(ing) in Place Resources

**Springing into Fall: Building a Better Next Year
with Sane Bell and Beth Houf
May 28, 2020 | Notes from Webinar and Chat**

Advocacy

- Must make sure he is an advocate for all students

Reset

Reconnecting with Students and Staff

- Culture happens all year long
- Relationships don't stop in the summer
- Homevisit modifications with masks
- Virtual transition meetings
- Principals with Driveway Discipline for Positive Reasons
- Delivering books
- Incoming kids did a few videos walking through school through spring...like a You Ask, We Answer
- Facebook and Instagram with families
- Summer challenges
- Giveaways
- Summer Staff spotlights
- Smore for Kindergarten Orientation
- Smore
- Zoom Office Hours
- Focus Groups to reconnect with certain groups
- Summer connections with new staff
- Onboarding of new staff is going to be critical
- Phone calls with staff
- Get feedback from students about what they liked with Distance Learning
- Listen to feedback to make things better
- Reach out and grab the feedback.
- Flipgrid for new staff introduction and videos
- Exit slip for the what is the most important thing we need to think about as we come back in the fall.
- Frontload the connections and do it throughout the summer
- Keep some open time for staff to check in...open office hours for Zoom
- Remember to pick up the phone and check in to see how folks are doing...keep it personal and as people.
- Blog by Liz Garden Our Lives with COVID19
- Frequent check ins with other leaders
- Happy hours, house parties via Zoom



Educational Gap Assessment and Planning

- Teacher involvement is huge
- You have to know where to lead from
- Get teacher feedback
- What did we get to and what didn't we?
- Create a district document about this so it can easily be passed along to the next teacher
- Teachers facilitating how we are going to address the areas that haven't been covered
- Teachers need to have the opportunity and ownership to be able to do this
- Parent and staff surveys (district and campus wide)
- Google forms for surveys
- Teachers with a self assessment
- Kids will be all over the place so we have to regroup how we are going to reset
- Are our system and structures still relevant after COVID19?
- How are you pushing kids forward?
- Addressing equity as online learning didn't support all students
- Perspective is important! They have missed 60 days out of 3340 of their school career
- Remember your why...why do you teach and how do you bring that joy back to those different settings.
- Your why will deepen your what
- School will never be the same. We knew it didn't work for all kids and now we can reframe and recreate it.
- You have to have the passion and they why!
- Whatever plan you are going to have to do, it isn't about TierII or TierIII it is about all kids. The plan has to be created collectively.
- There have been times when we have wished education would be different, this is an opportunity to address the whole child and reimagine schools.
- The impact of state testing and how when it was canceled it was a weight off folks. How might this look going into next year.
- We have to be sure to speak up when it is not ok.
- Need to find a way to redefine how schools are measured
- Opportunity from obstacles
- Equitable experiences for ALL students
 - This connects back to the advocacy and it rolls through all of this

Social Emotional Support

- Don't start your year with academics. Start them with relationships and how they are doing.
- How are your staff doing?
- Needs assessment for staff and students
- Be in touch with your kids so you know how they are doing over summer
- Building community is essential in the fall
- SAEBERS for benchmark needs assessments
- Jay Billy blog on the pandemic "What I've Learned"
- Community circles
- Morning meetings, advisory...anything that builds community
- Work on SEL first before they are ready to learn



- Morning choice
- Unit plans and curriculum, what can go out so you can get more SEL in there
- SEL and how much time is spent on this is organic
- Weekly student assemblies
- We have all been through trauma but all our situations are different and we have to remember that.
- Supporting teachers is critical
- Culture happens so much and you can't wait until bad things happen to work on culture
- How can we look at things excited about hands on learning?
- Virtual talent show!
- SEL needs to be woven throughout all that we do...it needs to live and breath outside of the "time" within the day
- Hands on learning!
- Book for staff-Dr. Earl Suttle called Stressed to Blessed (Transforming Your Mind, Body, and Spirit)
- No micromanaging
- Mentoring for students that haven't been engaged
 - At least one stable person at school that connects with them daily and checks in to help
 - Already have those kids on the radar and being intentional about re-engaging with them and pulling their families in
 - One on one mentoring

Elevate Parental Partnerships

- We are partners with the parents now
- Must have a reengagement plan
- Tapping into specific staff (gym teacher, art teacher, para staff) to help students reengage...special calls and virtual hangout
- Secretary and counselor plans
- Not on us to redefine this...ask the parents, what does this look like?
- Co-teaching with the parents
- Take the extra time to help support families learn these new communication tools
- How can we help partner with parents to help kids grow?
- Start with passwords!
- Set up a call center for help
- Zoom call for lunch/break to connect with families
- Offered things multiple times along with evening/weekend times
- Communication coming from the schools, not the district
- Being aware of the level of communication
- Traditions is peer pressure from dead people ~George Couros
- Redefine and streamline communication with families, especially if there are other kids at other grade levels
- There is such a thing as over communicating
- It is ok to not do everything and it was ok to share this.
- Streamline and keep it simple
- Have options for students and parents
- Might need to give permission to let go of some of the things you have on the table



- Relationships first!
- Keep It Simple Superhero
- Giving teachers permission to let some things go

Taking Time for You

- Be sure to do something fun!
- How can you find closure for the year that we just went through
- Think of some activities that didn't involve screen time...this might be something that you developed through COVID19...keep this!
- Don't get rid of some of your new routines and activities
- Have a schedule and keep boundaries
- We are often addicted to our jobs and it is hard to do this behind a screen ...we need to redefine ourselves.
- Redefining who we are...hmmm 20-21 theme
- Setting boundaries
- Reset , redefine, rebuild
- You have to have that moment at the end of the week and reflect on the week...what worked well and give yourself credit for answering the call and doing the hard work.
- You deserve to have that moment each week!