

Virtual SEA REP Meeting

January 4, 2021

3:30-5:00 PM

Michelle Killam (Membership Chair/Secretary): Membership update

Chris Cosma (Treasurer):

Kevin Courchesne (Vice President): Website update

Mark Janick (President):

- Substitutes
- Tuesday meetings, reminder only 1 per month, on the others days you still must stay an hour but no meetings!!!
- Addition 40 min of Prep. Are you getting it?
- Calendar: Be careful not to make plans in June.
- Quarantine vs. Sick Days
- Results of last Tuesday's SEA members listening meetings
 - June Days not the same.
 - Treat us like professionals.
 - Working from home when full distance? Other schools?
 - Not using metrics anymore.
 - Changing back and forth.
- "10" minute meetings to go over survey and next steps?????:
 - SHS 3:30-4:00
 - McAlister 4:00-4:30
 - SMS 3:30-4:00
 - Spaulding 4:00-4:30
- How are the schools?
 - Spaulding
 - McAlister
 - Middle
 - High

- The point I was trying to get across is that we have been asked (repeatedly and consistently) to rethink, reimagine, pivot, think outside of the box...or any other phrase you can come up with...and we are reaching our breaking point. There is an incredible amount of effort being put into posting Lesson Plans daily and making sure everything is made digitally available, while trying to ensure that all of the students can hear, see, and participate in class. We put our heart and soul into every lesson, and it is very defeating when we are made to think that all of our efforts aren't good enough. It may not be the message that was supposed to be heard, but as I pointed out earlier...sometimes what comes out isn't what is intended, no matter how many ways you try to say it. There are some incredible things going on in our classes, and everyone has gone way above and beyond to make things work in each of their unique situations.
- It would be ideal to find out any changes in protocol earlier, rather than later. Since students will still be online (I anticipate many from SMS to still do so), there shouldn't be any grand shift needed in regards to the way our materials are being presented. In the choral setting, it may open up the opportunity to bring in some actual choral music. The songs will need to be purchased, copied/scanned, and distributed to the students. It will also require for me to record multiple parts for them to use as practice tracks. (All of that is done in regular years, but the Choral curriculum has been adjusted to a completely different track for this year.) Getting advanced notice of the numbers of students expected to be in the room for rehearsals would be greatly appreciated.
- While there is an understanding that nobody has ever experienced anything like this before, it is very frustrating to feel as though our professional experience is not respected when it comes to making decisions. It is without question that we should be moving towards having the students "All In" by the end of the year. The timing of the move is very concerning, especially with regard to the wave of increasing cases and the more contagious strain now being introduced into the mix. It does not seem as though the health and safety of the Faculty and Staff is being considered a priority, especially when a vaccine will be made available in the near future. The Hybrid Model has not been an ideal way to teach any of my classes, but I have made it work, and I am now feeling safe when I walk into the building every day. I am not one to be overly worrisome, but the thought of an increased chance that I could bring home the virus to my immunocompromised husband brings me to tears every time.