Collaboration, Unity, Equity CUEup!
Superintendent’s Monthly Report
March 2021

Curriculum and Instruction
National Elementary Honor Society:
We are proud of our students that will be inducted into the National Elementary Honor Society at Drexel Avenue School, Park Avenue School and Powells Lane School. Our students have exhibited exemplary character of strength and perseverance during this entire year. The students are to be commended for exploring and living up to the standards of the four pillars: scholarship, responsibility, service and leadership. Our goal is that they will continue to blossom into phenomenal human beings that care for others and shine the light on others as a form of paying it forward. Congratulations!

Writing to President Biden and Vice President Harris:
This year all Powells Lane School students learned about the election process and the students in grades 3–5 closely followed the 2020 Presidential Elections. Our students also watched the Keke Palmer Inauguration Day Program. The program featured several guest speakers who shared information on the electoral process, as well as, historical facts about past inaugurations. As a result, we established a prompt for students to demonstrate their writing skills: “What would you like to see the new President and Vice President do for our Country? We are looking forward to mailing the letters to President Biden and Vice President Harris and hope that they will enjoy them.

The HS Guidance Team is promoting the following college and career readiness events to motivate our students and educate them on the college and career process as a follow up to our Mindfulness Approach to the college and career readiness event held on March 10th.

WMS Guidance Team has completed push-in classroom lessons for all grades 6-8 to promote Career Exploration and Social Emotional Learning via Naviance Middle School Guidance Tool. Students are actively engaging in activities and learning more about Social Emotional Learning via use of the Road Trip Nation videos embedded in the Naviance Curriculum.
NYS State Assessments:
NYSED assessments for the 2020-2021 school year are scheduled to resume this year although a waiver application was submitted to the federal government. Our educational system has experienced a great deal of trauma and we are hopeful that NYSED assessments will not be administered and if so, will not be used for accountability purposes. The district is planning for the required in-person NYSED 3-8 assessments, K-12 NYSESLAT and Regents. Based on the guidance that has been shared by NYSED this past week, the administration and testing coordinators have met and are in the process of creating and coordinating schedules to ensure we are in full alignment with what is expected. We are working diligently to ensure a smooth administration while simultaneously adhering to all the safety protocols. We will be sending communication to our families shortly to provide them with all the information.

Professional Learning—Concurrent Teaching and Learning through Purposeful Lesson Design:

We continue to take a deeper dive into transforming teaching and learning through our systemic K-12 professional learning plan aligned to our comprehensive Simultaneous Teaching Guide. The current focus is creating tiered layers within lesson design which focuses on station rotation, choice boards and purposeful and intentional use of technology. Cohorts of teachers are being empowered to become “in-house experts” to serve as turnkey trainers for their colleagues. The goal, in alignment with our five-year Strategic Plan, is to create a repertoire of teacher resources, such as (1) videos of best instructional practices, (2) opportunities for inter-visitation allowing for collegial sharing and modeling among our own peers, (3) a collection of research based articles that focuses this critical work. The work is divided in three tiers:

- **AREA 1**- Implementation of concurrent teaching learning strategies embedded in each teacher’s planning using concept maps,
- **AREA 2**- Engagement in the remote and hybrid landscape, including: Emotional Engagement, Behavioral Engagement, and Cognitive engagement, and
- **AREA 3**- Instructional Technology: investigating and focusing on: the WHY for the applications we choose to use, the WHY for the digital tool we choose to engage our learners in, and the WHY we choose the materials/resources to support the learning.

Technology Update
Connectivity and WiFi:
During the week of March 15, 2021, the technology department received 150 mifis through T-Mobile’s Project 10 Million. The project provides students who do not have reliable Internet access at home with free high-speed Internet access. The technology department has completed the
inventory process, and the mifis are currently being delivered to the buildings for distribution. An additional 450 mifis have been allocated to the district through Project 10 Million and will be delivered upon request.

**Chromebook:**
During the weeks of March 8 and March 15, 2021, the district received an additional 3,000 Chromebooks. The technology team is currently finalizing the inventory process and the devices are being delivered to the buildings. The distribution process will begin during the week of March 22, 2021 and will be facilitated by the technology department in conjunction with building administration.

**5Lab:**
The data syncing process started during the week of March 1, 2021. This included syncing Google Classroom and Infinite Campus with the 5Lab Data Management Platform. The process of uploading primary data to the 5Lab Platform will conclude during the week of March 15, 2021. At this point, the data is being tested and data dashboards are starting to be created. These dashboards will provide meaningful and actionable data to all stakeholders in the district, which will provide the framework for instructional decision-making.

**Apptegy:**
The technology department is currently working with representatives from the Apptegy Website and Communication Platform on app creation and possible website design options. There have also been discussions focused on designing a presentation for the District’s Communications Committee. When complete, this platform will allow the district to manage all communication channels including social media, phone, text, and the internet from a single platform.

**Athletics**
The junior varsity boys’ soccer teams have begun their season with back to back victories. They opened their season with a 1-0 win over Baldwin and followed that with an impressive 5-0 victory over East Meadow. The team is coached by WHS math teacher, Nick Monioudis. The Varsity volleyball team picked up their first victory with a 3-0 triumph over Freeport. The team is coached by WMS Annex PE permanent substitute Jaclyn Beraud. On March 16, 2021 week 3 of Fall high risk sports (football and volleyball) Covid-19 testing was conducted at the School Based Health Clinic under the direction of Nurse Practitioner Joy Ciardullo. For the third week in a row all of these student/athletes tested negative, 61 in total.

**Reopening of Schools**
There are varied discussions across the state of bringing students back to school full time. The Westbury UFSD has reconvened committees to review the possibilities but understand that safety is the priority to ensuring a safe return. That being said, the district is discussing the gradual full time entry of several grades to measure our success and to minimize the spread of COVID-19. All precautionary measures will be taken into considerations along with the guidance from the Department of Health.

Several districts that have attempted to fully implement a return have seen an immediate need to return to remote learning due to cases of COVID-19. Our teams are actively researching and
presenting recommendations that are safe, gradually introduced and with all precautionary measures in place. We will include and inform the community of updates on the Reentry process.

**COVID-19 Data Update**
Below is the COVID-19 data available as of March 17, 2021 at 4pm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nassau County</th>
<th>Tested</th>
<th>Positive (784)</th>
<th>7-day Avg.</th>
<th>Cases per 100K residents</th>
<th>Hospitalized on L.I.</th>
<th>ICU on L.I.</th>
<th>Hospital Beds Available on L.I.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 16, 2021</td>
<td>17,754</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>4.7% *</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>826</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Cases in the District:**
The following table represents all WUFSD COVID-19 cases to date:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Students Tested Positive</th>
<th>Staff Tested Positive</th>
<th>Students Quarantined</th>
<th>Staff Quarantined</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UPK</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dryden St.</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drexel Ave.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Ave.</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powells Ln.</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMS</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHS</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Offices</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westbury Total</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>258</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New Guidance from NYS DOH**

I. Quarantine Following Exposure to COVID-19
Fully vaccinated individuals who are exposed to COVID-19 during the first three months following their last dose of the vaccine, do not need to quarantine, provided they do not develop COVID-19 Symptoms.
II. Travel Restrictions
Fully vaccinated individuals are not required to quarantine following domestic travel during the first three months following their last dose of the vaccine, provided that they do not develop COVID-19 symptoms.

III. Leave for Vaccinations
Effective March 12, District employees are allowed an excused, paid leave of absence so that they can receive the COVID-19 vaccine. The leave is not to exceed four hours per vaccine injection.

All information is posted on our website @ www.westburyschools.org.