**Meeting Rationale**

FSWC – Lee is a small school with lots of integrated and moving parts. Our parent organizations (Florida SouthWestern State College and the Lee County School District both operate as outside entities and are dependable sources of support and structure. In relation to the LCSD, we are an independent Charter School and function as a sub division of the School of Education at FSW (SoE). These positions are advantageous to us as we remain operationally free to do what is best for students, staff, and our general school community. While there is a formal structure of meeting almost every other Tuesday as a full group, submitting our meeting minutes to the College’s Document Manager, and meeting regularly with the Dean of the SoE, this structure is not the driving force for excellence. Student needs are best met through the spirit of innovation, self-directedness, cooperation, and shared decision-making that permeates the culture here. The results of this methodology speak for themselves in terms of academic achievement, climate surveys, and the annual excess demand for seats during our open enrollment lottery.

What follows are the meeting minutes and summaries of our designated time(s) together but they do not happen in a vacuum. Sometimes they sound like an agenda and are published before hand, other times they are presented as a summary of what happened. Lunchtimes in the staff lounges, group chats via cell phone, teachers teaming up with each other, ideas from the Principal, un-expected student needs, world events☺, all get managed with the strength of a unified staff. There is an un-written expectation that decisions that will affect multiple people or groups of students require everyone involved to be present. This builds a sense of team while encouraging independent thinking and cooperation at the same time.

**FSWC-Lee Collegiate High School**

**Meeting Minutes**

3/23/2020

I will try to keep the barrage of information as efficient as possible.  Only two updates and “see you” between 12:00 and 12:30 today.

First, the message below went to families via email and students via canvas……

Second, you may already have a zoom account and today is still happening via the Frye group text link.  It is simple to convert a free generic account to an FSW corporate account.  Just select SSO as a verification method and enter “FSW” when prompted for an organization name.  It will then push you to a single sign on page, ask you to verify your account via your @fsw email and then you’re in.  Not critical for today but converting to this will get you out from under the free account limits.  You might end up doing this with students, you might not.

Here’s the family message so we all start today on the same page.

*Hello families,*

*I remember growing up in the Midwest hoping and praying for a blizzard or some other sort of snow day to get a few days out of school.  As a student, it just seemed like free time to me….Now as a parent and employee, it would seem like a challenge.  This “extended Spring Break” is going to take on some similar feeling and I want to communicate early what you can expect.*

*Staff is meeting today using some new virtual tools to talk about how to transition to virtual learning.  I will put some questions and answers here below as a way of trying to facilitate communication.*

***How long is this going to go on?*** *– of course no one knows, answers range between April 15 and the end of the year.  For now, we will focus on planning activities from now until April 15.  As developments un-fold, we will communicate new plans.  I expect to hear about extended closures or announcing the return to school well ahead of that date.*

***When will virtual schooling start?*** *– we are planning for a rollout that will begin very slowly this week with generous due dates so that families and students can start out being successful no matter what challenges you have.  Watch for a written plan before the end of this week.*

***Is FSWC – Lee on the same schedule/program as the LCSD?*** *– short answer is “no” they have their own systems, curriculum, and objectives.  We are not bound to their academic programs (that is one significant point of a charter school).  The big un-known here is how does one system or the other define a “day of school” and how will the end of the school year be defined.  This answer will come from the FLDOE and we will keep you posted.*

***How will my student access information?*** *– we will use Canvas as the primary backbone and there is a possibility that a new product “Zoom” will facilitate virtual face to face communication.  Each grade level of teachers will develop and communicate a plan that is easy to follow.*

***How much time should my student spend on school work?*** *– our goal is to start slow and build the virtual learning skill set….probably less than a traditional school day in the beginning and we can go from there.*

***What if my student needs help?*** *– part of what we will develop today in each grade level is schedule that you and your student can count on to gain access to teachers.  Students and you will get the same information after it is developed.*

***How can/should I support my student at home?*** *– My suggestion is to establish a routine, evaluate whether it works, make adjustments, and then try a new routine.  This is the “fail fast” mentality of solving problems in a continuous cycle so that you have constant improvement.  I think the key here is routine and it should include having your student show you in Canvas what is or isn’t getting done, when things are due, and if this goes on long term how their grades are doing.  Definitely separate school time from social media time.*

*This is a long message but we have never done this before and we want to make the best of it.  I will leave you with that thought, you have my assurance that we will make the best out of this new and challenging situation.  Feel free to contact me by email.  This message is going by Canvas to students as well.*

3/23/2020

All of this is as clear as mud and I almost expect the rules to change so hang loose.  I think the way forward here is to focus on earning the “concordant” score so we don’t have millions of kids re-testing next year.

Your copied on this communication because in some way EOC is related to your course instruction and/or graduation for students and testing.  Also, the 30% rule of final grades for Biology, Algebra, & Geometry is waived for this year.

I cut and pasted the most important section here below and attached the original source.

*Q: How does the cancellation of state assessments impact students?*

*A: The answer will vary based on students’ placement within their educational journey.*

* Current seniors: If a senior is expected to graduate in spring 2020 and has not met the exit criteria for Algebra I EOC and/or Grade 10 ELA FSA, or earned a concordant score, this criteria will be waived. However, students still must earn the necessary credits and meet the GPA requirements to graduate.*

* Non-seniors: The Department is waiving the requirement for non-senior students who are currently enrolled in a course that requires an EOC to take the associated EOC. However, non-seniors who have yet to pass the Grade 10 FSA ELA must still meet the exit criteria by passing that assessment during a future administration or earning a concordant score. Though non-senior students enrolled in the EOC course of Algebra 1 are not required to take the Algebra 1 EOC, they must still meet the mathematics assessment graduation requirement by either passing the Algebra 1 EOC (offered four times each year) during a future administration, earning a concordant score, or passing the Geometry EOC during a future administration.*