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PACE  
Statewide  
Homeschool

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## April School Board Report

Last month the PACE calendar was submitted for approval. There was a typo in that document. December 24 was listed as a Holiday. The revised PACE calendar removes the 'H' designation from 12/24/26.

Work continues with MBA as we work to complete the goal of migrating our PACE student and family data from FileMaker Pro to Powerschool. This has been quite a significant undertaking but we are nearing a final product. The new plugin format helps to streamline workflow for contact teachers and keeps all of our census data in the same location and format as our brick and mortar schools. Superintendent Hanson has been invited to the next development meeting for review. I have been assured that this plugin will be completed by June, allowing me time to introduce it to staff and parents and just prior to the new fiscal/school year. This has been a long time coming and I am looking forward to our PACE families and staff enjoying a much more modern interface, improved connectivity, and faster user experience.

A major element of our FileMaker Pro system is enrollment. PowerSchool offers an Enrollment plugin which we have purchased. This plugin will benefit not only PACE, but our brick and mortar schools as well. PACE families will soon interface with PowerSchool via a "tile" page which will provide communication, quick links to necessary tasks, and more. While PACE families already submit demographic information electronically, our b&m schools will now also be able to collect and auto-fill many demographic categories which will save time and improve accuracy.

Reimbursement requests arrive throughout the year, but now seems to be the time when a lot are up for review. When reviewing reimbursement requests, I have been asking for additional information from contact teachers. Historically, there has not been a major effort to align our reimbursement with the stipulations of state regulations or district policy. The PACE staff has spent a lot of time discussing what is and is not appropriate for reimbursement approval. Major efforts have been taken to ensure curricular alignment to state standards, which is a basic regulatory requirement.

In addition to reimbursement funding, we are currently reviewing all curricular standards alignments. Over the years, there have been resources purchased where publishers do not provide an alignment to state standards or common core standards. The teaching staff is

compiling a list of current resources being used and indicating whether or not there is standard alignment. If a family wants to use a curriculum that is not aligned to the state standards, teachers may review the materials and provide a standards alignment document prior to approval. If a resource does not align to standards, CCSD cannot purchase the resources nor can it reimburse families for personal purchases.

Our approved vendor list has grown over the years and it is time to review all of those agreements. The Vendor Approval Form is being updated to include the regulatory definition of “tutoring” and will ensure the information collected in the form supports that definition. I will provide a letter for our teachers to send to potential vendors that explains the update and requests a more complete description of the services provided than what we have received in the past. It is my intent that this information will allow the new principal to make more informed decisions as to whether a vendor meets our criteria for reimbursement.

Our most recent administrative assistant resigned effective May 1. I want to thank Savannah for her work in the time she was with PACE. Our current part time administrative assistant, Sonia Traver, has taken on full-time AA responsibilities. She approached me about the change and we are happy to have her in an expanded role. Thanks Sonia!

May will provide an opportunity for the board to review the 26-27 PACE Family Handbook. There are significant revisions to the handbook this year that will reflect topics I have referred to earlier in this report: reimbursement qualifications, curriculum purchases and alignment to standards, tutoring services, personal technology purchases, and PE standards alignment are all areas that have been clarified. There have been no changes to allotment amounts or the basic structure of the program. Clarification has been added by including reference to regulations where appropriate.

All discussion and changes to PACE follow a path that supports quality education. By insisting upon resource alignment to standards, designing SLPs that support educational rigor, increasing communication with our families, and providing clear expectations to families and vendors, PACE can continue to provide an effective education for our home school families.