

## Teaching & Learning

- **Standards Based Grading:** Departments are continuing their work on creating/revising proficiency scales for each standard being measured. Teachers have attended ongoing Otus training to familiarize themselves with the grading and reporting tools offered by Otus.
- **Instruction:** Teachers have attended professional development sessions on hybrid instruction and evaluated their practices in an effort to increase direct instruction for In-Person learners and increase overall engagement for all learners. New tools and resources have been experimented with and colleagues have helped one another to improve practices.
- **Data Review and Problem Solving:** Weekly data meetings focused on student progress and growth in Language Arts & Math are held at each grade level. Teams are joined by our Reading and Math Specialists, administration, and other invited colleagues to analyze student data, review strategies, and plan next steps to increase student success.
- **Academic Supports:** New tools have been added this year to assist struggling students and accelerate the learning of all students. These new tools, including MAP Accelerator and PAPER, can be used by students to supplement their learning and can be completed independently. Teachers are able to assign activities and track student participation and progress. Teachers are also providing open office hours during our acceleration period to assist students as needed.

## Student Success

- **Social - Emotional Learning:** Weekly SEL meetings take place between our Social Worker, grade-level representatives, and administration to review current student supports and implement new supports. Periodic whole school student surveys and strategic well-being checks are also conducted to help identify student needs. Our Social Worker works closely with our PE/Health department to deliver social-emotional lessons in the classroom.
- **Student Recognition:** A mixture of weekly recognition (Warriors of the Week) and trimester recognition (Honor Roll/ARROW awards) are used to recognize students for excellence in Academics, Citizenship, and Effort.

## Community Relations

- **Safety & Comfort:** A number of measures were taken this year to provide students and their parents with information and access to our building and staff, despite the ongoing health/safety concerns, with the goal of alleviating stress and anxiety for all involved. Videos and virtual meetings were offered by all staff for *Welcoming New Students*, *Health & Safety Guidelines*, *Meet the Teacher*, *Curriculum Night*, *Parent-Teacher Conferences*, and *Return to In-Person Learning Protocols*, to name a few. New Health and Safety measures were implemented, including cleaning practices and hallway travel to allow for the safe and comfortable movement of students throughout their 9-period school day.

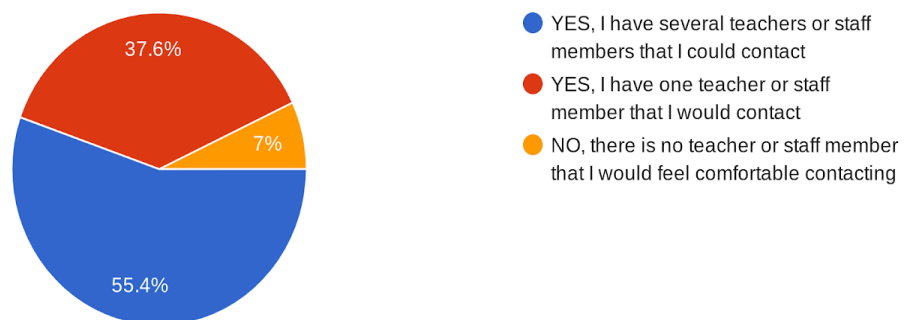
- **Whole School activities:** In December, each grade level attended a virtual assembly focused on perseverance, goal setting, and treating others with kindness. In February, we began our WARRIOR Games, a building-wide Minute-To-Win-It style tournament open to all interested students and staff. We felt that with the cancelation of activities such as Dances, In-Person Field Trips, Concerts, the Basketball Brawl, and Athletics, a new event would provide some positive, safe, and friendly competition in an otherwise dreary month. Over 270 students and staff have joined in!

- **Culture:**

- Our Student Connection Survey conducted in November showed that 93% of students felt that they had developed a connection with at least one staff member and would reach out to them if they needed assistance (see Pie chart below). Considering the disconnect that can occur through Remote Learning, we were proud of that initial number, but not satisfied. Our staff continues to work diligently to raise that number to 100% as quickly as possible.

Do you feel that you have at least one Westfield teacher or staff member that you would feel comfortable contacting if you needed help?

372 responses



- The latest Humanex Culture Survey data (below) shows that 83% of Westfield staff feel Highly Engaged and Highly Satisfied with their professional life at Westfield and District 13. With all of the stress and uncertainty in the world over the past 12 months, we take great pride in knowing that our staff feels that they can count on their colleagues and leaders to band together in trying times to overcome new challenges and continue to provide our students with a safe, comfortable, and supportive learning environment!

Westfield Middle School - All  
(n=41)

