

Minutes of the Mental Health Advisory Committee of the
East Lansing Board of Education
Zoom Virtual Meeting
December 1, 2022

Opening of Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Lindsay Young, Kurt Scholler, Quiana “Q” Davis, Dori Leyko, Djinn Thompson, Heidi Mendez Denning, Jim McEvoy

Absent: Amy Martin, Elizabeth Allen, Erin Parcell, Gina Zerka. Jade Corse, Mark Foster, Natalie Moser, Klaudia Burton

Minutes

Lindsay Young and Dori Leyko provided an update on the Mental Health Advisory Committee’s (MHAC) outlook moving forward. Lindsay explained that a meeting was held between previous committee leaders, Kate Powers from the school board, Dori and herself to discuss how the MHAC can be utilized moving forward. Lindsay explained that there would be a couple of transitions happening due to the growth that this committee has made in the district and that she would be taking over leadership of the committee. The goal would be that the MHAC work in an advisory role to support needs as they arise. Dori then discussed the history of the MHAC and its impact on the district as a whole. Dori explained the need for ongoing support from the MHAC for future implementation or projects related to mental health. Jim McEvoy asked what the best form of communication to the district would be regarding mental health information between meetings. Dori and Lindsay explained that all community members are welcome to contact Lindsay with any information, questions or concerns around mental health in the district.

Lindsay then provided an update on the current mental health supports in the district. She explained the implementation and reboot of TRAILS and Second Step. The utilization of the mental health response team. Increased professional development around mental health and wellness. Bi-monthly wellness newsletters that go out to all families and staff in the district. Full time social work at all of the buildings in the district this year. The district partnered with the Cook Center for Human Connection on November 16th for a family mental health night. The district is working hard to grow connections with outside resources, such as; Lansing mental health providers, Community Mental health and Cedar Creek Hospital. The district is also working to support students’ basic needs by running a winter clothing drive and gift card drive for the holiday break.

Dori Leyko provided an update on the 97 and 31aa grants that the district applied for in regards to school safety and mental health. The district is still awaiting a response on the grants to see how much they will be given and then the hope is that through discussion with the MHAC and others we can create a plan to best support the district with the grant funds.

Future Meetings

The next meeting will be held in the spring to provide an update to the MHAC. Lindsay Young will reach out to the group prior to the spring meeting if the expertise of the group is needed in processing through decisions around mental health for the district.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:25pm