

BOSTONIA TOWN HALL MEETING NOTES (May 15, 2020)

Distance Learning at Bostonia:

- Parents and students were having different experiences by grade level.
- The transition to distance learning was smooth.
- The kids miss the social aspect of school!
- Keeping a regular daily schedule helps.
- The teachers have been lovely!
- The parents like the zooms.
- Some teachers zoom 3 times a day (Maestro Palacio).
- It's hard with multiple kids to keep up the rigor. If you sit with the younger children, the older ones don't push themselves.
- Distance learning is working for the mom who works from home.
- One mother of 5 children said it works best for the self-motivated children and less well for the non-self-starters.
- No way of knowing if students are turning their work...
- Difficulty with students missing friends ... only want to do video zoom and not activities because he wants to be in the classroom...
- Essential workers- have been working the entire time... struggling with accountability.. what are they missing... what do they need to turn in, not turn, in...
- Playlist, classwork in different areas, too many things going on at the same time...
- Parents felt the zoom time/activities need to be engaging or the kids tune out.

Childcare:

- A few parents reported no childcare needs. There was an adult home in every household.
- They were concerned about how you teach kids the physical rules of being safe in this environment at school.
- They also feared that the childcare might be maxed out due to huge needs. They reported that there was already a waiting list at their site.
- They worried about students with special needs.
- Worried about an isolationist environment... students are becoming very withdrawn and angry...
- Parents are looking at homeschool as an option if needed...
- Concern around students with medical issues
- How to support students with IEP needs
- How to ensure that students are safe at school... that parents are not forcing students to go to school even with coughs/colds...

Going Forward:

- A small number of parents (5) said they would not want their students to return at this time.

- A larger number of parents said they would be interested in a hybrid model.
- 6 parents were not sure but leaned toward a hybrid model.
- They said lots of education would be needed for students to know how to behave with the new safety guidelines.
- The parents wanted options and flexibility for next school year.
- One dad said he thought we should follow the example of business with some people working remotely and some coming in to campus.
- The parents thought perhaps we could use partitions, like cubicles.
- The parents said they would be willing to send their kids in for the value of the social time.
- They all insisted that no one can send sick children to school.