

**Dist. 205 Special Board of Education**  
**Mar. 11, 2019**  
**7:05 – 9:10 pm**

**All Bd members present**  
**Public: 0 Staff: 11 Press: 0**  
**LWV Observer: J. Dorner**

The Board was in closed session from 6:00 p.m. for possible litigation, purchase or sale of property and setting a price for sale or lease of property.

President Caforio called the meeting to order and led the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

**Public Comment:** none

**Board Work Session: Social Emotional Wellness in D205:**

The administration gave the following statistics for York High School, so far this year:

- 46 hospitalizations
- 17 recurring hospitalization
- Some General Education students qualified and placed directly into ACCESS (co-taught with SPED and social worker)
- 25 Initial SPED case studies (social/emotional referral concern)
- 5 case study referrals made by team and refused by parents
- 5 initial 504 evaluations (social/emotional) refused by parents
- 20 students in IPS (Individual Problem Solving) Tier 3
- 34 students at risk for graduation, needing to recover credits
- 107 Gen Ed students who are frequent drop-ins for social/emotional needs
- 37 students recommended for Tier 2 anxiety group
- 20 students withdrawn by parent citing that York was unable to meet social/emotional needs.

Dr. Moyer stated that there is significant increase in students dealing with these types of issues.

The Board discussed their concern with this issue and some of them mentioned what some other districts have done to help alleviate this

problem. These “solutions” include:

- Pairing freshmen with upperclassmen as mentors.
- Starting later in the day (due to sleep deprivation).
- No cell phones in class.
- Increasing social workers and psychologists.
- Not allowing freshmen to take AP classes.

To build a foundation, the administration needs to hear from students. This is a bigger issue than just a school issue and the community needs to support possible interventions. Dr. Moyer has heard from several community members who would like to help. He has also approached the Regional Office of Education to go countywide, but this does not seem likely in the near future.

When looking at interventions, appropriate questions need to be asked and when working on a new program, this issue needs to be part of the plan, not an afterthought.

**Possible Next Steps could include (hopefully before the end of the school year):**

- Assessment changes at York are scheduled for next year.
- Rearranging start times – include students in this plan.
- Student survey (for the Spring?).
- Reconvene student services committee.
- PTA is very involved in this and wants to show the *Angst*.

Perhaps having an outside speaker coming in – possibly Julie Lythcott-Haims, author of the book *How to Raise an Adult: Break Free of the Overparenting Trap and Prepare Your Kid for Success*.

- Establish a way of communicating with the community.
- Some site visits to districts that have some of this in place.
- A list of resources that people can contact if they do not know to whom to talk.

**Upcoming Meetings:** The next regularly scheduled meetings are Tuesday, Mar. 19th at 7:30 pm.