

Public Comment submitted at the September 8, 2020 Board Meeting

Agenda Item A.1.a. Learning Continuity Plan

Public Speaker - Jeff Ross submitted at 6:24 pm

I'm a parent of 2 kids at MCMS and we have been continually challenged with the limitations of the district issued Chromebook devices. Taking pictures of homework, uploading, and emailing pictures of homework to themselves, teacher struggles to find where homework has been uploaded, etc. It seems as though we've reached the limitations of these devices, and now they're slowing everything down. Is there a plan to allow more robust Windows/Linux/Apple devices to be used so we're not hampered like this? There's no reason it should take 10-15 minutes trying to upload pictures of homework on different devices because not all of them will work. We don't have the time for this.

This comment came in after the Public hearing closed

Agenda Item A.1.a. Learning Continuity Plan Public Hearing

Public Speaker - Susan Allen submitted 7:08 pm

An example of how teachers could feel supported via the tech department is in equipment. Many teachers are spending their own money on tech while the items they are buying are sitting unused in rooms around the district. A priority could have been to make those monitors, cameras, additional computers, etc. to teachers to set up our home offices. Creating a list of hardware available to teachers at each site would be brilliant. An attaboy goes a really long way right now. Teachers are giving tons of positive feedback to students and being "on" all during instruction. We need it, too.

This comment came in after the Public hearing closed

Agenda Item A.2. Diversity Efforts

Public Speaker - Cathy Lory

In reference to the books used at OPHS, I can enlighten you regarding the Math Department. Looking at the 9 authors (with photos) listed in the Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 books by Glencoe [McGraw-Hill], I calculated the following: 3 white men, 3 white women, 2 Hispanic/Latinix men, 1 Black woman. The presentation to the Board only focused on the English Department and the novels used. This presentation did not incorporate other departments or the supplemental materials used in the curriculum.

I think this topic of materials chosen should be addressed at the department level and at Curriculum Council. My department has consistently chosen books that are rigorous, comprehensive, well organized, and approved by Curriculum Council. Books adopted by CDE are used in the selection process. The demographics of the authors has not been a consideration when choosing math textbooks at OPHS.

One Comment was asked by speakers to be privately shared with the Board and not read aloud and so that comment is not included here.