

Questions Asked of the Board of Education, September 27, 2021

1. Why don't the high school kids have access to their lockers anymore? It is adding to their stress, carrying coats, books and laptops around. How does it help with Covid?

Students congregating at the lockers was identified early on as presenting a risk of passing COVID. There is not enough time between classes to allow students to visit their lockers in a socially distanced manner.

2. We understand about the bus. But why the children are being marked late or absent if the buses are not showing up?

Students whose buses are late are not marked late or absent when they arrive at school. They are marked present.

3. It has been 16 days and my son has not received instruction from the district. He just was assigned a homeroom teacher as of Thursday. Who is going to make up the 16 days' instruction for him?

This question was answered privately due to the confidentiality of student records.

4. I am a parent of a prek-4 student at LW Beecher School. Just before the start of the school year, we were promised a before/after school program (a program that in the past had always been available for pre-k but was unfortunately cut last year). It is now the end of September and I have heard no updates on when this program will start. I imagine that I am not the only parent struggling to manage a fulltime job and getting my child to and from school, given the school hours. I also hear that before/after school programs at other schools are up and running and I am looking for some support from the BOE at LW Beecher School. Is it possible to pay the current paraprofessionals at Beecher for the extra hours pre/post school? Incentivize people somehow for these roles? We, as parents need your support as soon as possible. Thank you.

Beecher plans to launch a preschool program on October 18. The school administration is working to set up an afterschool program as well, but has not found qualified staff willing to work those hours. In part, what we are experiencing is a shortage of qualified staff. The challenge at Beecher is even greater than at other schools because it has four prekindergarten classes and thus requires more staffing to run before and after school programs. We will continue to work to address this challenge.