RSU #16 School Board
Administrative Report
Shawn Vincent
Principal, Bruce M. Whittier Middle School
November 30, 2020

Staff

- School nurses Lisa Storer and Pam Tracy are doing tremendous work at Whittier and PRHS. It has been a challenging start to the school year, and Pam and Lisa have provided outstanding leadership, education, and care to students, families, and staff in our school. We are grateful and proud to have Pam and Lisa in our district.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

- Remote Learning: Whittier Middle School moved to full-remote learning from November 23rd until December 3rd. Two people connected to our school tested positive for COVID-19. The two cases led to 40+ students and 10+ staff members being quarantined for 14 days. Rather than try and piece together coverage for classes, we moved to full remote instruction. Staff and students have done a nice job responding. We will make some adjustments upon returning to school, including moving all staff meetings to Zoom-only. We are eager to return to in-person instruction.
- In-person Instruction: Staff members at Whittier have been very creative and collaborative in designing instruction. Teachers talk about how much they are able to get done with the small groups of students. Some revisions were made in curriculum to focus on key learning targets, but most subject areas report that they continue to be on the regular pace with their curriculum. Math teachers said they needed to take a step back to some of the concepts that students should have practiced in the spring, but have since returned to grade level learning targets. There were some concerns about offering labs in science classes, but teachers have been able to set up labs without shared materials or with regular sanitization. The seventh-grade students recently completed a lab/competition on water filtration and engineering design.
- Full Virtual Learning (VL5): We have 33 students in our VL5 program. We are requiring medical documentation for anyone asking to move to full remote learning going forward. Sam Chatto has kept in regular communication with all families and reaches out to families of students who are not keeping pace.

Events

- Whittier's Tri-Town Family 5K was virtual this year. Eighty-six people completed the 5K and submitted their information. Students, staff, and friends of the middle school logged 3,220 miles in training, leading up to our 5K week.

Facilities:

- The custodial team is doing a great job of keeping Whittier Middle School clean and safe.