



Sandusky City Schools 2019 Fall Community Forums Community Questions and Answers

1. When looking at our general fund, where do items like retirement and pensions get paid from?

a. Retirement and pensions are paid from our benefits portion of the general fund.

2. How much does Sandusky City Schools receive money-wise, per student?

a. The district is capped at \$6,020 per student (same as last year) based on our state legislature. This year, we do receive wellness dollars for students to help with a multitude of services. When students open enroll to other districts, we pay that amount to other school districts.

3. Why does Sandusky City Schools have to pay for students who live in the City of Sandusky but choose to open enroll in outside districts?

a. Ohio State legislature policies require this.

4. With updated safety and security policies and the building having key fobs for staff to enter, how will parents get into the schools?

a. Parents will have to “buzz in” to the intercom system as they always have. Next year, at the two new buildings, parents will be able to be buzzed in and will go directly into the main office. There will be a breezeway that connects to the office so parents will be directed there instead of being able to walk around first. This will help save time and keep students safe.

5. Can parents sit in on their child's classrooms and will there be more ways for parents to interact with classrooms virtually?

a. Yes! We encourage parents to be as involved in their child's classrooms as much as possible. Parents are always more than welcome to visit and sit in on classes, we just ask that the school principal is made aware beforehand so we can plan accordingly. All we ask is for parents to please call and set up an appointment. We continue to find ways to engage families digitally, especially for those parents who are not available to physically come in during the school day.

6. What will happen to the Osborne Elementary Building once we transition?

a. We, as a district, are working with the City of Sandusky to find a use for the building once we are transitioned out. The Osborne Building is a historical building and we want to honor that.

7. Will the new aquatic center be open for public access?

a. Yes! We will be working with the City of Sandusky to ensure that there will be programming for the pool. District programs (3rd-grade swimming program, athletic teams, etc) will have first priority. There will be two pools that can be utilized at the same time!

8. What did our district grade card look like this year?

- a. 2018-2019 school year, we received an overall “D”, missing a “C” by only two-tenths of a point. Highlights include:
- SCS received a “B” in Value Added and Value Added - Gifted.
 - Our High School 4-year graduation rate has increased year to year and was 85.9% for 2019.
 - Increased scores across the district, in ELA and Math.
- b. More information about our report card can be found at.....
- c. We are performing the same or greater than school districts that “look like us”.
- d. The state legislature is making report cards complicated with their “formulas”.



9. Does Sandusky City Schools' have any plans in place to address how many students and cars will be in one location once the new 3-6 Intermediate building opens directly next door to Sandusky High School?

- a. The City of Sandusky is looking at a variety of options to increase safety on Hayes Ave. and we are working with them on this matter. Additionally, we specifically designed the school to have the main entrance off of Buchanan St. which will help and there are multiple access points to both the Intermediate school and the middle/high school. There will be a specific traffic flow for parents to use during pick up and drop off, as well as staggered start and end times to help. As these patterns are determined, we will update the community and gather feedback. The district will also have an additional Student Resource Officer on campus to help with any safety matters.

10. Since Sandusky City Schools has started clubs like the Gaming Club, will students be able to take the next steps to begin learning to code?

- a. Yes! Coding is the next phase we would like to move to once gaming is up and running. Coding is a part of our STEAM vision and we even have some elementary students who are already learning it.

11. How will we work on getting students more college credits and career ready?

- a. At Sandusky High School, College and Career readiness is at the forefront of everything we do. We have multiple programs that were created out of our Transformation Plan, including Blue Streak University, the Global Internship Program, and our Career-Technical Classes to help middle and high school students. We are constantly evaluating these programs and making adjustments based on our community's needs. For example, we are looking at implementing a tourism/hospitality program next year. The same goes for all of our Adult Education programs as well.

12. What will the stage in the 3-6 intermediate building go to look like when it is done?

- a. The stage will have the finishings of a normal stage with curtains and lots of light. The flooring will be blue, grey, and slate and it will be large enough to have class on stage.

13. How is the district working on social-emotional support for all ages?

- a. Almost all of our teachers have to go through PACS training and focus on restorative practice. We have wellness coaches in our elementary buildings and we focus on positive behavior supports. Additionally, we are adding mental health supports in the high school clinic that will be opening in February.

14. Is there a bullying program in the district this year?

- a. Yes. We take bullying very seriously. Last year we updated our forms and procedures regarding bullying. Now it is easier for incidents to be reported and tracked. Our Wellness coaches are available to address bullying concerns and head up efforts around the matter. Each building holds various programs throughout the year with kindness being the central theme.

15. Is there only going to be one school-based health clinic? Are you going to expand so elementary students can use it also?

- a. As of right now, there will only be one school-based health clinic located in Sandusky High School. This is just the start. After the first year, we would like to expand so elementary students can utilize it. After the first year, we will revisit the need and model we are using so we can discuss expansion. This will be particularly easier once the Intermediate Building is opened in the Fall of 2020.

16. If you have additional questions, email SCSCARES@SCS-K12.NET.