EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

12-15-21

In attendance: Ms. Mahoney, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Ms. Dutton, Mr. Ambrose, Dr. Haynes, Ms. Desrochers, Ms. Donnell, Mr. Stack, Mr. Krzyzanowski, Mr. Malila, Mr. McCluskey, and Dr. Kennett.

Dr. Haynes presented assessment results from the 2021 school year. Last year (generally), performance scores trended downward especially for math which is consistent with State and national trends. The district is addressing this with curriculum changes to the math program. We've been talking about that, deploying the new k-6 curriculum this year, and selecting a new curriculum, a math curriculum for seven grade 7- 12 for next year.

SAT scores are used to measure proficiency in 11th grade and are still in wide use for college acceptance and scholarship opportunities so robust preparation for those will continue at the High School along with an emphasis on math intervention and addressing curriculum gaps.

Mr. Stack presented the methodology that's currently in use to calculate cumulative course grades that's known as *the decaying average*. The intent of that is to place greater weight on work done more recently, with a higher amount of credit given for improving scores as a more accurate measurement of learning. Some concerns were expressed regarding the origin and use of this

Methodology and so, Mr. Fitzpatrick moved that a Grading Task Force be formed to research and report back on that which was passed unanimously. That task force will be comprised of Ms. Dutton, Dr. Haynes, Mr. Stack, and Mr. Ambrose.

The High School Schedule Committee has not met. We should have a report from them at our next meeting, which is two weeks from today, January 19, 2022.