

EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE (EISA)

MINUTES

11-18-21

In attendance: Ms. Mahoney, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Ms. Dutton, Mr. Ambrose, Dr. Haynes, Ms. Desrochers, Ms. Leavitt, Mr. tack, Mr. Malila, Mr. McCluskey, Dr. Kennett.

Dr. Haynes reported on the progress of the new k-6 curriculum math curriculum rollout which is progressing smoothly but still with the need to backfill gaps from the previous math program. The 7 through 12 selection process is underway.

Mr. Fitzpatrick inquired about feedback from teachers on the new program In Vision which is generally positive with regard to pacing and student engagement. Mr. McCluskey noted that it does require more reading and that the fourth and fifth grade teachers find the online components to be more useful and helpful.

Dr. Kennett noted that for K through third graders there are some challenges with independent practice and that in general much of the focus for the younger students this year is on regaining academic tolerance and concentration levels lost from last year's pandemic.

Mr. Malila reported that the High School Graduation Committee met regarding the 24-credit diploma, and this is planned to be phased in gradually for each grade level. Mr. Stack also shared two options which are under consideration for the bell schedule next year. In the first option classes would meet every day for the same block of time which is roughly 35 to 40 minutes. In the second option, that model would be offered for three days with the next two days of classes having longer blocks of 60 to 70 minutes. The first model is logistically simpler, but it lacks larger blocks of time obviously for deeper learning. Mr. Ambrose noted that in his experience that 3-2 model offers flexibility and that the logistical challenges should not be insurmountable.

Ms. Leavitt discussed changes being considered to the *Diploma with Distinction* which is currently achieved by earning more credits than the standard diploma requires. The goal for that is for it to be more rigorous and meaningful and possibly to include a Capstone Project.

Ms. Desrochers provides us with an overview of the intervention program. The goal is for each student to demonstrate adequate yearly growth, so all students receive tier one or universal instruction with the classroom teacher where students are grouped according to skills assessed from performance testing such as the NWEA. Students who are struggling are moved to tier two for targeted instruction in a small group setting where goals are set and progress is measured. Students who continue to struggle are moved to tier three for intensive instruction with more frequent monitoring.

We had asked the administration to let us know how many intervention teachers are in each school. So, the High School has one ELA and one math intervention teacher, the Middle School has one

literacy intervention teacher and an applied math teacher. Memorial and Bakie each have one ELA and one math intervention teacher and Bakie also has a math paraprofessional.

Ms. Desrochers noted that this is a very different approach for the staff and expressed appreciation for their efforts to implement it this year.

Dr. Haynes reported that the New Hampshire Department of Education notified districts that student assessment data they have uploaded to their public website has not been authenticated and is not yet available for districts. The target is for them to have it available in December. We're hoping to have a report on that at our next meeting. Dr. Haynes also briefly reported that feedback from parents on report cards has been positive with fewer questions than in previous years.

Mr. Fitzpatrick commented that he would like some additional information provided to explain how the grades are weeded.

Our next meeting is December 15th we meet at 4:30.