

EISA Subcommittee Agenda 10/19/22, 5:00 -5:50 pm

Room 142 - MS Wing

Draft of 9/21/22 minutes

In attendance: Chair Tammy Mahoney, School Board Subcommittee members Jamie Fitzpatrick and Dawn Dutton, Superintendent Tom Ambrose, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Christine Desrochers, Director of Guidance Heidi Leavitt, K-6 Math Coordinator Donna Donnell, HS Principal Jen Michitson, MS Principal Matt Malila. Called to order by Chair Mahoney at 5:25 pm. Minutes of the 5/10/22 meeting were reviewed and approved by a unanimous vote.

The committee adopted 3 goals for this year:

1. Fully implement the new grading system (0-100 and letter grades in 3-5) and finalize a grading system for grades pre-K-2. Moved by Ms. Mahoney, seconded by Ms. Dutton. All in favor.
2. Support the district in obtaining NEASC accreditation. Moved by Mr. Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ms. Dutton. All in favor.
3. Implementation of K-12 curriculum documents and the use thereof for the district. Moved by Mr. Fitzpatrick, seconded by Ms. Dutton. All in favor.

Ms. Donnell reported that the new Secondary Math curriculum has been put into place. Mr. Malila has had positive feedback so far from the MS math teachers. Some HS-level books are backordered but Ms. Michitson confirmed that teachers are having success utilizing the workbooks and online resources in their place. Ms. Dutton commented that she finds the materials useful when helping her daughter.

Ms. Desrochers reported that the plan to implement the new grading system in grades 3-5 is to begin a rollout in early March with manuals and staff training, and to have the grading system aligned to grades 6-12 for the start of school next year (Fall, 2023). Committee members stressed the need to involve staff so any concerns may be addressed throughout the process. The committee will begin discussing a pre-K-2 grading system at the October meeting.

Ms. Leavitt presented the May AP test results, which averaged below the state average. She and Ms. Michitson are discussing ways to better prepare students for the exams, and to deploy more training resources to the teachers. It is anticipated that the new schedule should also help to provide more consistency, with teachers seeing their students daily now.

Ms. Leavitt discussed the changes that will be needed for a diploma with distinction, which was raised by the committee that researched the schedule and diploma changes. A new committee will be formed to revisit the requirements to earn a diploma with distinction, with more emphasis placed on rigor than completing additional course credits. Mr. Fitzpatrick stressed that the move to a 24 credit diploma was done to increase students' exposure to core subjects and support mastery of them.

Ms. Desrochers reported that the district is preparing for the initial visit in the NEASC accreditation process, which will take place after Thanksgiving on 11/28 and 29. We expect to receive a report of

the findings and recommendations in January, and will then have 2 years to develop a plan to address them. The accreditation team will return on 12/20/24 for the final step in the process.

Meeting was adjourned by Chair Mahoney at 6:15 pm.

Call to order

Approve 9/21/22 minutes

1. Review any new available testing data
2. 3-5 grading system work
3. K-2 grading system work
4. Status of conversion to 24 credit diploma
5. Curriculum review cycle

Public Comment

Next meeting date - 11/17/22

Next meeting agenda items -

Adjourn