

Excellence in Student Achievement (EISA) Subcommittee

MINUTES

8/18/21

In attendance: Chair Tammy Mahoney, School Board Subcommittee members Jamie Fitzpatrick and Dawn Dutton, Superintendent Tom Ambrose, Director of Teaching and Learning Patty Haynes, Director of Academic Intervention, Assessment, and Accountability Christine Desrochers, K-6 Math Coordinator Donna Donnell, HS Principal Brian Stack, HS Assistant Principal Steve Krzyzanowski, MS Principal Matt Malila, Memorial Principal Ryan McCloskey, Bakie Principal Troy Kennett .

Called to order by Ms. Mahoney at 4:30 pm. Mr. Fitzpatrick, attending remotely, stated that he was out of state and in a room alone. Minutes of the 6/16/21 meeting were reviewed. Dr. Haynes suggested adding “math” before “curriculum” to correct the wording of the 3rd goal. The minutes were unanimously approved as amended by roll call vote.

Dr. Haynes reported on a grading manual proposed for implementation this year, to standardize terminology used in grading so it will be more cohesive and coherent. “Formative” and “summative” will be replaced by clearer, more intuitive terms as “evidence” of learning. Competencies will also be refined to focus on a smaller, more standardized list for subject areas throughout K-12. Reassessment practices will also be addressed to more closely align with the goal, which is to ensure that students achieve proficiency during the unit and before moving on, or to identify areas where additional help may be needed.

Mr. Ambrose reported on strategic planning with regard to academics and NEASC accreditation. The administrators attended a retreat where academics were discussed at length, in light of the NEASC rubric. One requirement is to define a clear scope and sequence for education, which has been previously identified as a district need. The strategic plan work on this will also help to prepare for NEASC accreditation.

Dr. Haynes thanked Ms. Donnell, who has been working hard on the K-6 math curriculum rollout, to provide the teachers with training resources, access to online components, and materials. Teachers are excited to move forward with the new curriculum, and Ms. Donnell feels that good progress is being made. Ms. Donnell has also acquired the materials for the 7-12 math pilot being conducted this year and in

October, the same procedure will be implemented that was used to select the new K-6 math program, to produce a recommendation for adoption going forward.

Mr. Fitzpatrick raised concerns about book purchases. He also stressed the Board's goal of working toward the conversion of grades to numeric.

The meeting was adjourned by Ms. Mahoney at 5:15pm.

Recorder: Ms. Mahoney