

STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 15, 2017

Meeting began at 7AM with Mr. Wade, Mr. Amstutz, Mr. VanArnhem, Dr. Campbell, Ms. Malinas, Mr. Cosgrove, Mr. Solonosky and Ms. Torok.

Minutes from the October 10, 2017 meeting were approved with motion by Mr. Solnosky and 2nd by Mr. Cosgrove.

Mr. Wade then introduced the discussion regarding Math and ELA 6-12. He presented a data walk update which involved teachers of these grades and subjects having all gathered to meet and discuss the AIR test results including the value-added component as well as the ACT/ASPIRE test results. The rationale was to evaluate all relevant data with the purpose of dissecting how we as a district can continue to improve in providing an exceptional education without getting caught up in teaching to a test. The goal was to have the teachers explore and dig into the data deeply to evaluate where and what subject matter we may need to dedicate more teaching time and identify adjustments to the formulating curriculum maps. The intent was to structure these discussions from a ground up versus a top down manner. A very positive takeaway from this professional development was the opportunity for the staff to get a look at actual examples of the released materials. It was very beneficial from a teaching perspective in that it allowed staff to see areas that perhaps too much time was being spent on in the classroom and identifying areas that needed a deeper emphasis. It was an opportunity to evaluate areas of improvement without it being in a form of "administrative mandate". This exercise has proven to be helpful in tweaking our developing curriculum maps and continuing to address if our results are lining up with the "blue print".

We then moved on to discuss the District's Gifted Identification and Service Plan. Back in August we approved and updated gifted identification policy so the literature and service plan needed to be updated to reflect the changes which were approved. The plan speaks to how kids are referred and the changes in operating plans and guidelines used in identifying gifted students. The new operating standards have changes in not only identifier test scores but also in new accepted criteria which can be used as an identifier. This mainly is in the area of music and the arts. There is a stipulation which allows a district to make the decision to not serve based on the criteria identifier if resources are not available. A district must take the step to identify gifted in musical and visual arts but is not mandated to serve.

Additionally, this update has imposed a mandated 30 hours of continuing professional development for gifted teachers which is also tied to a timeline. Kirtland is one of the districts testifying down in Columbus to oppose this decision. As a district we believe in continuing education but feel a set number of hours to be met on a deadline is inappropriate and perhaps excessive. With the number of teachers connected to gifted teaching this could cost the district up and above \$25,000 annually with no assistance from the state. This PD must be done by an intervention specialist or gifted coordinator. This year Mr. Wade believes we will meet the 30 hours, but there is concern for years moving forward to be able to budget the PD time and cost while serving the needs of all students.

Ms. Malinas shared a spreadsheet breaking down areas in which PD has been provided including when and how many hours. A professional development budget has been established but with this change we will have to re-evaluate.

A public comment regarding the absence of staff attending an O.P.E.N. workshop regarding Executive Functioning was noted. Some teachers have graduate classes, and several did ask to have the video taped presentation sent to them since they were unable to attend. Administration will continue to encourage staff to attend understanding that it has immense value to the families of students who learn differently.

With no further questions or comments, we adjourned at 8:25am.