STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 9, 2017

The meeting began at 7am with Ms. Malinas, Mr. Amstutz, Dr. Campbell, Mr. VanArnham, Mr. Wade, Mr. Solnosky, Mr. Cosgrove via phone and Ms. Torok in attendance.

Approval of April minutes motion by Joe Solnosky and seconded by Kat Torok.

Tim joined us via conference call and the meeting opened with Ms. Malinas giving an update and overview of the Champs Camp which is scheduled for students in K-3 which will run M-Th July 10th-August 10th from 9am-11am at KES. As of May 8th, there were 34 students enrolled with the deadline to sign up May 15th. CHAMPS is a service provided by our district for Kirtland students for reading enhancement expanding the growth in phonics, fluency and vocabulary skills. There is a cost of $75 but is free for students that qualify for Title I and Special Education. There are currently 4 students who will be using this camp as part of their ESY (extended school year) which ends up being a cost saving to the district. Once enrollment for the camp is closed the needed number of teaching positions will be posted for application. This is the 4th year this service has been offered. The overall cost is currently projected to be less than $10,000 and this is paid out of the Title I funds received from the Federal Government.

Ms. Malinas gave an update regarding testing. All out of district and in district students were finishing up testing the week of May 9th. It was reported and believed that this was the smoothest year regarding testing although there were a few system issues that were not district related and the tech department was very helpful in resolving the issues. Mr. VanArnham then discussed specific testing in the elementary school. The biggest shift was the use of the computer for all students. No paper and pencil was used this year. Students were prepared with additional exposure and practice with the computers prior to the testing and it was felt it was a successful transition. Outside of a necessary make ups testing in KES was to be completed on May 9th. Mr. Amstutz then gave his report on testing in KMS. All went well in general and he thanked Mr. Bell for handling a successful and smooth testing period in the middle school. Testing preparation was minimal and Mr. Amstutz did make mention that they will continue to review the testing schedule to ensure that is fits what works best for the students (i.e. times of day, number of days, full/partial days etc.). Some student feedback was that certain reading passages were very challenging yet other areas of the test not as much. Additional evaluation will be made once the results are returned and Mr. Amstutz did say that they will continue to teach beyond the test while preparing for the mandated testing. Dr. Campbell commented that they had 100% participation this year versus @70% regarding testing. It is expected with the increased participation that the mean testing score will drop. The high school changed the format for testing this year going to a delayed start for non-testing students so that only students who were being tested were in the building. Breakfast bars and juice was made available for those who were interested. It went very well and only 4 interrupted days occurred with the testing this year. The schedule was well received by testing and non-testing students. It created a positive environment for testing.

Dr. Campbell gave an update on CCP dual credit for the upcoming year. This fall KHS will be offering Composition I and in the spring Composition II which will be dual credit (HS and college) semester long classes taught by Mr. Eye. Additionally, Mr. Valentic will be teaching US National Government which will also be a semester long class offered both in the fall and spring. These subjects tend to be the most frequently taken courses at community colleges. An evaluation will be made as the upcoming year

unfolds to determine if KHS continues to offer these classes and/or expand and offer additional dual enrollment courses.

A report was then given discussing curricular and instructional success looking forward for KES, KMS and KHS. Each principal gave a report and Dr. Campbell began by commenting that he would like to increase the peer modeling professional development. He believes remarkable success and buy in has been achieved with this form of cooperative teaching amongst peers. Additionally, he noted that the focus of literacy instruction and practiced strategies were being utilized and reinforced throughout the building with the peer modeling that was conducted this school year. Mr. Amstutz began by stating that the middle school was very focused on being consistent with the building and teaching goals that were established for the year and future years. He believed the teachers did a terrific job utilizing the planned literacy strategies already in place and was pleased to see the increase utilization jump from 30% to 70%, depending on the subject. He believes this increase is since teachers now have data supporting the effectiveness of this model which was gathered and presented at morning meetings by the Building Leadership Team. Mr. VanArnham made mention that they had Euclid and Orange teachers come in to watch KES staff model instruction in math and reading/writing workshop and was very proud of there presentations. KES went away from the traditional staff meetings since they typically only included @25% of the staff since they tended to be subject specific. This year he utilized his Building Leadership Team and created 3 groups made of experts in a specific grade. The developed groups were k-6 and consisted of a math expert, social/emotional expert, a technology expert and an ELA (English language arts) expert. They were tasked with one or two key issues to work on for the entire year. (i.e. math concentrated on math facts, grammar and writing in the ELA, responsive classroom for behavior on the social emotional front and the tech group focusing on the upcoming one to one.) KES has student led conferences coming up on 5/17 and will reflect on their year presenting their portfolios showing the growth throughout the year. In the upcoming year, there will be additional involvement with the preschool to aid in the smooth transition for students as they officially enter elementary school. The KES teachers are working on a digital literacy piece that will be pushed out to parents at the end of the school year. Mr. VanArnham mentioned the Fun Run/Lemons to Lemonade established by Mr. Lasecki to create scholarships for graduating KHS seniors who have had to overcome personal struggles. The seed money for this venture came from the Go Fund Me accountant that was created for his last year when her personally experienced an unexpected health issue. He was thankful for the gesture but wanted to share that fund with students who are in need.

In closing Mr. Wade gave an update regarding staffing issues/concerns at KES. He has spoken to many parents explaining his staffing decisions for the upcoming year which will be presented at the May BOE meeting. He stated that he began looking at what our staffing needs may be for all buildings back in October. In his decision, he considered declining enrollment, budget constraints and the timing sensitivity for current staff as it relates to the current contract. Although his KES decision has raised concern amongst parents he feels his staffing plan will not jeopardize the quality of instruction for the involved grades. Having said that, he mentioned that if the enrollment were to unexpectedly change he will monitor and make the necessary recommendation to add additional staff if the class numbers exceed bargaining agreement bar. He did stress that his decision was not made based on money but on the best interests of our students and for the district.

Having no further comments or questions the meeting was adjourned approximately 8:30am.