

Kirtland Board of Education
Student Learning and Achievement Committee

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

Met in Hornet Hall at 8:10 am.

Present were Mr. C. VanArnhem, Mr. J. Withrow, Ms. S. Green, Dr. M. Whittaker, Ms. K. Talty, Mr. S. Amstutz, Mr. D. Leone, Ms. K. Nagaj, Kristen Schutte, Mr. Scott Greenly, Mrs. Kathy Withrow, and Mrs. Suzanna Adkins.

Minutes for September 2021 SLA approved.

KES Math Update presented by Ms. Katy Nagaj. Math is now being instructed with a shift from the traditional approach to developing a motivated problem-solving method. The goal is for the students to develop better number fluency and accuracy, and to move away from memorization of basic math.

By Number Talks: add-ons; agree/disagree; comparative thinking; surface discrepancies; revisit previous thinking with white board.

There is a three-part application and modeling - moving away from teacher to student doing the problem with risk taking without any penalty: story problems online programs; classroom games; dice-problem solving problems.

Parents and families can help at home from teachers' created videos. Parents can access from home for each grade level which introduces the framework; what is going on in the classroom and what the parents can do at home to give parents strategy. The next step is to look at KES resources for example Eureka and DreamBox Learning, to see what's best.

Financial literacy in the school: Senate Bill 1 recently passed.

This bill requires beginning with next year's freshman class, all students must have a half-credit of financial literacy to graduate from high school.

Presently, the students are receiving some financial instruction in their U.S.

History class. Looking at other ways to incorporate this in the curriculum might be as a stand-alone class, or given as part of the health class, or with Life Skills for the Seniors. Further discussion will be at the November SLA meeting.

Grading and Quarterly assessments presented by Mr. Scott Amstutz. KHS is taking a deep dive with data and testing- checking depth of knowledge of the students and looking at multiple ways to have authentic learning. Brian Drost and

Steven Miller have conducted the professional days to unpack standards/data testing both State and Local. Tricia Ebner focuses her PD days on ELA review, theme and central ideas focus on argumentative vs. Informative; grammar and conventions; complex text selection; depth of knowledge; and major work of the class for the grade. Looking at weighted categories with an emphasis on what the students know; focus on specific data with a systemic approach for the teachers.

Public Comments: discuss grades on the upward trend, but ACT and SAT scores down. Bench marking is a challenge. Inconsistent. Late work should not be summative. Some teachers only do summative not formative. Communication piece is a problem. Look at mandatory retakes like Hudson and Solon and remediation. Kids are experiencing anxiety with 80-20. There is a lack of transparency with the change in grading given to the parents and students.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 am.