

Education Committee Minutes

Tuesday, April 6, 2021, 6:30 PM

Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Mark Guzzi, Robin McNeil, Ryan Parker, Chad Stratton, Kathy Neil, Jenny Watson

Members Absent: Etna vacancy, David Cameron

Others Present: Lori Merrow, Maxine Pare, Mike Hammer, Ellen Surprenant, Liz Mares, Angela Brown, Jane Stork, Mary Nadeau, Kelly Burns, Laura Donahue, Veronica Nicholson, Donna Kissinger, Shellan Raley-Masterman

- I. **Public Comment** - None
- II. **Coaching Update** - Kelly Burns, Donna Kissinger, and Shellen Raley-Masterson gave a detailed presentation regarding coaching cycles that have taken place this year. They gave specific examples with data sets and specific areas where teachers are collaborating with coaches to improve instruction, which in turn increase student achievement. This includes creating videos of lessons, in class observation and extensive demonstration and teamwork.
- III. **Behavioral Specialist Report** - Kate Maccarone our full time, first year behavior specialist gave a report on the work she has done this year. She included a survey that she has done with the staff that she works with including detailed areas of support they lean on her to provide. She goes above creating behavior plans and working with challenging students. She provides the District with professional development, provides case management support, does observations and serves as a tremendous resource to our schools. She has reached out to see how she can be of assistance and service to the people she works most closely as opposed to assuming she is providing what people need.
- IV. **Elementary Science update** - The Committee discussed the implementation of science in general and the impact the pandemic has had on the science

instruction. Presently, there is a focus on reading, writing and math standards and science and social studies are integrated into the units. We have shorter instructional time due to staggered and social distanced dismissal. In a normal year, teachers are mindful of including science and social studies into their units and the routine of the year. The teachers have examined some science materials that may make this more efficient. Lori and the principals will be looking to include one of these resources in one of the ESSER grants. There are specific standards that can be accessed on the curriculum website pages that span pre K through high school. Mary also presented a high school science overview.

- V. 5 - 12 Grade 4 Day a Week Update** - Mike, Mary, and Angela gave brief updates regarding students coming back 4 days a week. It's been like the first days of school. There has been a little bunching in some areas. Lunches are still a bit of a challenge; we are still using gyms and adding a few more students in the cafeterias with the new guidelines. Angela has about 17% of her students remote and Mary has a little over 100 students still remote. It has been refreshing to see more students in school and to experience old fashioned discipline again.

VI. Other - None

VII. Future Agenda Items -

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Hammer, Superintendent