

Monday, May 12, 2014
3:30-4:30 pm
Shared Decision Making Meeting

Notes

Attending: Matt Malone, Nina Landi, Jocelyn Worrell, Jennifer Warner, Robin Schiavoni, Donna Denon

Welcome

Discussion:

- Mr. Malone spoke about moving forward next year with our goals and apologized for the delay in rescheduling the January meeting.
- Nina suggested forming the dates for the meetings prior so members can work around it.
- Jocelyn suggested that we look at the district wide plan to assist us in our direction.
- Suggestion to provide a "Math Camp" for parents modeled after the Partners in Print program that would help acquaint parents with the math program (understand vocabulary, strategies, curriculum) Parents and students working together over the course of many weeks becoming familiar with mathematics. (Plan, execute, get feedback)
- Mr. Malone described the Math Academy planned for students in grades 5-8 planned for this summer.
- Suggestion to move towards thinking about making a small manageable change that supports our topic, a starting point. Perhaps grouping students based on how they are moving through the module to see if the ability grouping would be successful. Using a shorter module (20 days) begin the idea as a pilot, use a pre-test, use benchmarks, look at all factors and data and group the students accordingly.
- The pilot for ability grouping could be done for Math or ELA. Either would lend itself to the model, however math is planned in an organized way and student comparison and measurement would be easier to recognize pre and post.
- The expectation would be for all students to show growth and achievement as a result.
- Would varying abilities be present in each group and would this factor make the teaching more effective?
- Staffing for the pilot, additional support would be a consideration.
- Extension projects should be a priority at all levels and meeting the standard would be the ultimate expectation for every group.
- How would we measure the success of the pilot? (comparing state testing, preceding module performance, student's daily attitude toward the pilot, comfort level and confidence, parent feedback about how the child feels about the grouping)

- Fifth grade-Module 5 appears to lend itself to the pilot program for flexible grouping- (Addition and Multiplication with Volume and Area) or Module 3 (Addition and Subtraction of Fractions)

Next Year 2014-2015

1. Frame out our suggestions
2. Bring the plan to the staff
3. Plan for the pilot
4. Make decisions for implementation

Next Meeting: Pending the Board of Education monthly calendar for September 2014.

Feedback from tasks from previous meeting:

Book, *Keeping Track* highlighted the topic. There are trends to the politics in school; helps kids who have greater ability but does not work for students who need support. Not a lot of recent research on our topic.