

Superintendent's Lay Advisory Council Meeting

ZOOM

March 14, 2022

Minutes

Members:

Dr. Robin Felty, Superintendent

Meghan Eckert (MS), Chairperson

Caryl Buffa (HS), Secretary

Marissa Kmiec (HS)

Elizabeth O'Brien (HS)

Jill Speizer (HS)

Carrie Evans (MS)

Sharee Livingston Anderson (MS)

Jessica Kahler (LRIS)

Steve Kemper (LRIS)

Rosamund Mische John (LRIS)

Holly Stockwell (LRIS)

Dan Nyiri (Brecht)

Rachel Waldo (Brecht)

Jadie Catania (Bucher)

Jackie Wachinski (Bucher)

Kisha Johnson (Neff)

Denise Rosario (Neff)

Meredith Steidler (Neff)

Nancy Izquieta (Nitrauer)

Carolyn Garneau (Reidenbaugh)
Melissa Grosh (Reidenbaugh)
Meghan Ryan-Keller (Reidenbaugh)
Herlie Velez (Schaeffer)
Anu Varadarajan (Schaeffer)

Members Absent:

Renee Suydam (HS) – with regrets
Moniqua Acosta (MS)
Allyson Gibson (Bucher)
Jenine Nicholas (Nitrauer) – with regrets
Stephanie Ruth (Nitrauer)
Becky Trayers (Schaeffer)

Guests: Dale Reimann, Assistant Superintendent; Joni Lefever, Director of Pupil Services; Elizabeth Ziegler, College and Career Counselor

Call to Order

- Meeting began 6:30 pm.
- I. Welcome and Introductions
 - II. Minutes from January 2022 approved
 - III. Profit of a Graduate & K-12 Supports for Students
 - Joni Lefever & Elizabeth Ziegler
 - Positive Actions and Minding your Mind
 - Positive Actions being tested in 2 schools
 - Minding your Mind addressing depression and anxiety
 - Focusing on families and directing to parents for guidance
 - Profile of a Graduate

- Career Awareness in Elementary
 - Educational Opportunities after graduation
 - Understanding Opportunities
 - PA Career State standards
 - Earning MT Endorsement
- Career Ready Lancaster & Inspire Lancaster

IV. PTO Sharing – Reflections & Questions

- Dr Felty had 2 questions
 - Attendance, time line for handing in excuse notes
 - Looking at ways to communicate with students/parents/school
 - If habitual, could be referral to other agency for support
 - Could they reinstate email excuse slip, everything else is electronic. Parents and administration and attendance are all asking same question.
 - Researching on a system that benefits all. “One that allows us to receive electronic attendance notes from parents. Tech is working with us on what's possible and helping us to institute a system that works with our systems, and work with all grade levels/buildings, so that it's a consistent process for our families. We will look to update this group when we have information to share.”
 - Technology
 - Parents are hoping use of technology will be scaled back. District is trying to make a uniform feature of the classroom. I pads allow to implement a plan when needed during pandemic. It isn't the only tool for instruction.
<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/articles/screen-time-in-the-age-of-the-coronavirus#:~:text=than%20time%20spent.-,Good%20content%20is%20key,-.%C2%A0Choose%20age%2Dappropriate>
 - Grade level inconsistency in elementary that are using technology differently.
 - Active time vs online time, can we differentiate.
 - MS teacher who addressed parents that students are not providing attention due to ipads.
 - It will be addressed during Professional Development to find a balance and determine what usage is.
 - HS widespread indifference to cellphone usage, not limited to non-instructional time anymore. Has this been expressed by teachers also. Will follow up with HS administration.

- Grading System
 - Has there been a change to the system recently, is there new testing and retakes and homework changes to grading practices.
 - Addressing the issues that grades are dropped for those that have test anxiety issues.
 - Someone who is performing better in Formative (A/B) then Summative (C), is being penalized this year from previous year.
 - Not enough points still in each quarter, because the formative is still being outweighed. Teachers realize the student is grasping the material but the gpa isn't showing it.
 - Advisory mediation
 - Was this required due to multiple issues with new grading system, too many failing
 - Started school year meeting with parents and teachers and students. Consistent themes. Instituted mid-range adjustments on retakes, gracious on late work, mindful of grades on what goes into each category. PD happening because of these concerns. Extending times for retakes, homework. Be respectful. Grading hasn't changed during school year, are close making adjustments because of comments. Grading changes haven't changed test taking or grades on tests. Summative assessments are tests. Looking to make adjustment next year. Multiple choice, vocabulary, partial credit. Summative assessment lack of points, teachers aren't offering ways to retest in another way. Alignment, are formatives leading up to summative the same. HS is looking at overall assessment data and performance and there is a concern. Feedback has been invaluable and can make tweaks to grading and will be additional ones for 2022-23 school year.

Adjournment

- Meeting ended at 8:53 PM, with a motion

Minutes will be updated on District Website

Representative openings will be changing for next school year, reach out to building principals if remaining, leaving or interested.

Remaining 2021-22 Meetings

5/9 – changed back to Zoom