

Minutes IC Meeting March 21, 2013

Meeting attendance: Maria Aguinaga, Barbara Bettis, Christina Bucchi, Kathy Duchaj, Sara Elwood, Cyndee Fralick, Heather Fodor, Todd Graba, Raheem Hasan, Judy Havemann, Perry Hayes, Dan Hoffman, Megan Kozlowski, Denise Lockwald, Carol Mammoser, Kelly O'Brien, Claudia Sanchez, Katie Thomson, Wilma Valero, Esperanza Villarreal-Ortiz, Lisa Whitmer, Mary Wojtczak

Absent: Mark Atkins, Terri DeDecker, Nadine Hill, Josefina Melendez, Jennifer Williamson, Rita Weber

Guests/Observers: Dr. Torres

February minutes reviewed/revised and approved with 19 yes, none opposed.

Grading Committee- Secondary Education-Guiding Principles

- Clarification was given on whether the Grading Committee Presentation was just informational or if it was an action item. Grading Committee would like for the council to approve the Guiding Principles, before going forward and going to the board.
- Council member asked why we have two different grading scales. Having two grading scales gives teacher's an option, to choose what they are comfortable with, points or percentages. Parents need consistency, if they have two students they will receive one report card with points and one with percentages, parents will be confused.
- Council member suggested adding a clause if action item is approved. Council approves with concerns about having two grading scales.
- Guiding Principles were voted on and passed with 18 yes, none opposed, and 1 abstained.

CCSS Updates

- Council member asked if they could receive a visual representation: a model of how we all interconnect. Graphic will be handed out at next meeting.
- Review of documents handed out: Backward Design a Unit of Study Different Frameworks; The PD workgroup has looked at several models to be better informed.
- Some Secondary Schools have been writing units, we don't want to discount the work that has been done. We want to look internally and externally. The PD workgroup is looking at New Mexico and New York and looking at them side by side. Essential questions need to be in the units. Bringing all samples together and comparing them with our units and making them better. Research is what is being done right now.
- The next step is to have deep focus units that are aligned with deep focus thinking. Secondary will implement one unit per quarter.
- We don't need to recreate the wheel because there are high quality units out there that can be improved.

- Target audience, General education, special education and dual language students are represented in workgroup.
- Common Core facilitators in the buildings are based on funding, what support will there be for buildings? *There is a plan to drive forward with and without facilitators the PD is working on.*
- Each workgroup has a connector which connects with each group. Workgroup is not working all by themselves.

Technology

- Reviewing and discussing handouts.
- Wireless to all buildings coming soon.
- Full time instructional tech coordinator coming back next year.
- Just having technology and computers doesn't equal student success

Communications

- Council asked if there is a flowchart available with everything that is going on in the district. Patrick will work with Trish on getting something together.

Equity & Excellence

- Ron Raglin gave a PowerPoint presentation on the work the Equity & Excellence department.
- Question was asked as to what is the most positive and disturbing thing Ron has encountered working as the Director of Equity and Excellence. *Most positive thing I have learned is despite their situation homeless students are enrolled in AP Courses. Most disturbing: the disproportionality with Special Ed. 1 in 4 African American are in Special Ed.*

Gifted Updates

- Presentation will be postponed until next meeting in April.

MAP Update

- NWEA will be aligned to common core.
- Spring MAP test will look very similar to the fall test. The fall test will have multiple correct answers and some next generation questions.
- The council had concern over changing mid-stream the data will no longer be valid. Deflated students because of a different test/different outcome.
- Student's winter scores are used to make decisions on student placement.
- April 9th the window opens, and in the fall the test will be a slightly revised test, with some next generation questions and the questions will count towards the RIT score.

Updates to Proposals

- 4th year math proposal will not be implemented in the fall.
- Proposals need to go to the board by December to be able to implement by the fall.
- Staffing issues are preventing the implementation of the 4 year math proposal.
- District has been covering the cost of benefits of staff who have been paid through grants. *Budget for a Kia but are driving a Cadillac.*
- Confusion on when proposals need to go to the board for proposals to be implemented the following school year. Years ago there was a clear cut decision that proposals need to go to the board by December. Years ago a proposal came in about an Art history class after December, the class was on the course selection sheets, and if there was enough interest the class was implemented.

Transformation Task Force Updates

- Council viewed PowerPoint presented by Doreen Roberts
- Are you looking at other school districts? *Elementary committee has been out to visit District 54 to look at student contact. High School committee has done a lot of research on the calendar at other districts. We are looking at what worked and what didn't. What started as optimal school day has morphed into something bigger to dig deeper.*

Summary Statements:

The Instructional Council voted and approved the seven guiding principles presented by the secondary grading committee, noting concern for the two grading scales.

The Instructional Council was updated by Common Core Steering Committee members on progress made in each workgroup. C & A workgroup discussed plans to procure and or develop unit plans aligned to the areas of focus for the coming school year. PD workgroup brought forward a draft of the learning plan. The technology group brought forward a draft technology timeline. Communication workgroup updated the council in regards to their time line.

Ron Raglin updated the council in regards to equity, excellence and social justice pertaining to goals and objectives.

The co-chairs of The Transformation Task Force provided an overview of their process and progress this school year.