

Pathways Advisory Committee Minutes

Monday, Dec. 6, 2021
Educational Services Center
Virtual Google Meets
7:00-9:00 PM

<u>Time</u>	<u>Business</u>
7:00-7:15	Welcome & Approve Agenda Leila Sturz, chair

Participants: Beth Flottmeier (Director of Curriculum & Instruction), Sarah Moline (Early Learning Director), David Heistad (Director of Research), Leila Sturz (Chair), Jennifer Krause , Tyra Zychowski (GT Department Rep), Andrea Crane (Olson Elementary Rep), Kellie MCGowan (Director of Metro South, Adult Basic Education), Helena Pikus Li (Valley View Middle School Rep), Lisa Johnson (Oak Grove Middle School Rep), Rosalie Strommen (Secretary & OGE Rep), Kris Schneider (Ridgeview Elementary Rep), Richard Scott (Equity Specialist), Denise Bielke (Poplar Bridge Rep), Dawn Steigauf (School Board Rep)

- Leila Sturz moves to Approve the Agenda: Rosalie Strommen Seconds. Agenda is approved as presented.
- Looking for volunteers to co-chair. Icebreaker: Plans of things to do over break?

7:15-7:20 **Purpose of the Committee:**

The Pathways Advisory Committee (PAC) is a School Board-appointed committee of parents and staff charged with reviewing the curriculum process, evaluation results and District plans. The role of PAC is to communicate with parents the activities of the committee, and to solicit comments and feedback on curriculum and assessment issues

Beth Flottmeier, Curriculum & Instruction Director

Beth Flottmeier also discussed:

- Tonight we will talk about the district plan of the World's Best Workforce.
- Report that is in draft form right now. Part of the process is to go through PAC. Will also go to district diversity committee. This aligns with Pathways to Career & College benchmarks.
- Under MN Statute, school boards are to adopt a long-term, comprehensive strategic plan to support and improve teaching and learning. This plan addresses five goals (which are based on Pathways).
- Gave a presentation on the overview to the school board last week. Report is due to the state by December 15th.
- This is a report of what happened last year (2020-2021).

7:20-7:50 **World's Best Workforce Report**
Dave Heistad

- Dr. Heistad is our Executive Director of Research and Evaluation
- Dr. Heistad presented 2020-21 Bloomington Pathways Advisory Meeting Achievement Update
 - A lot of caveats because it was COVID a lot of kids did not come in for MCA and MAP in 2020-21
 - First goal is to have students ready for school. Quality of pre-k programs is good, but 2020-21 pre-k programs did not operate as usual.
 - More than a 10% decrease in Literacy and Numeracy for beginning Kindergarten Students Proficient in Literacy and Numeracy for 2020-21 due to COVID.

- Second goal is all third graders reading at grade level. This also dropped last year. Early literacy was the most impacted by COVID.
- Third goal is BPS aims to close achievement gaps
 - Every single racial, ethnic group, free and reduced lunch, english language learners, etc all reduced in reading
 - All students dropped 12% points in math. Every group decreased significantly in 2020-21. This is true not just of Bloomington, but throughout the state.
 - Early literacy greatly impacted the most; math impacted in districts throughout the US.
- Fourth goal is BPS graduation rate by group.
 - Uses 7 year graduation rates from MN report card. This data is always a year behind. Measured from 9th grade through graduation (4-7 years until graduation). Increased in 2020-21. Students allowed extra time to turn in work.
- Fifth goal is increase Career and College Readiness
 - 55% (17-18), 54% (18-19), 55% (19-20)
 - Have seen increases; want to continue to improve.
- Districtwide MAP Reading Growth by Grade and Year (Fall to Spring); drop in reading from 47% in 2018-19 to 23% in 2020-21 Grade 1; also drops in math.
- Students had less academic growth for 2020-21 due to COVID.
- Questions:
 - Beth will send the graphs out to everyone via email since it was small to view during the presentation.
 - We are keeping in mind those that tested may not be representative of the BPS population.
 - Could the lack of testing mean that students are even further behind? Likely that they are doing a little better than the test scores show due to testing in a stressed, COVID situation. Some students may have higher test results if they test in a different, less stressful environment. Some students may be further behind, though. For those who did not come in, have to believe that they were uncomfortable coming in to do the test.
 - MAP tests were administered this Fall, and results were provided to teachers for differentiation.
 - Very few people from Bloomington Online School (BOS) came in to test 2020-21. They could not even summarize for BOS.
 - Those who chose distance learning for their children likely chose for them to
 - There will be an evaluation of New Code Academy students this year.
- Dr. Heistad will be retiring after this year. Julio Cesar will be taking over for Dr. Heistad next year.

7:50-8:20

World's Best Workforce Report

Beth Flottmeier, Curriculum & Instruction Director

- Beth Flottmeier indicated she will discuss the goals and the context of the data from Dr. Heistad; introduced Sarah Moline to begin.
- Sarah Moline discussed the all students ready for school goal.
 - There are 8 domains of early childhood indicators of performance.
 - Moving toward implementing new Creative Curriculum.
 - Led by the student's interests (students have knowledge to share); evidence based practices.
 - Going to be moving into the last 2 elementary schools next year and will serve at 12 schools throughout Bloomington.
 - Teaching Strategies Gold Assessments being used in early learning.
- Beth Flottmeier discussed the goal of all 3rd grade students reading at grade level:
 - Units of study are used for literacy
 - Language supports are embedded in the units.

- Accelerated learning discussed for all students this year; find out where students are missing skills needed to get to the benchmark. Terminology used by the US Department of Education.
- Have literacy coaching at certain sites. 2 district-wide goals.
- Literacy leadership cohort (train the trainer model). Principals and teacher leaders.
- Literacy classroom visits conducted; visit every single classroom 2x per year.
- Targeted intervention. Minnesota Reading Corp supports students too.
- Regarding the goal of closing achievement gap between student groups:
 - Tiered systems of support
 - Cultural proficiency cohorts
 - Safe and supportive schools work as well
 - Summer school and after school learning
 - Last summer provided face to face and online opportunities for students.
 - Comprehensive State Literacy Grant and working on evidence based practices.
 - Literacy and math leadership cohorts.
- Regarding All students college or career ready by graduation
 - Working on expanding programming.
 - Computer science, world language, working with Office of Educational Equity (OEE) staff for ethnic studies staff for next year.
 - Dimensions Academy: new AP courses for those students.
- Train the trainer model has been going on for about the last 10 years, more robust in the last 5 years including the principals (staff meetings 1x per week and can be used for professional development in literacy, math, diversity/equity, etc) to get training in teachers' contract day.
- Graduation rate up, which is good.
- Regarding Equitable Access to Excellent and Diverse Educators
 - Trying to get more diverse educators.
 - Integration plan is a 3 year plan that ends in 2023. Have met some goals, but keep going. New plan will start to be written in 2022.
- Questions:
 - Efforts for diverse educators. We are in the running for a grow your own program grant for getting teachers and also for students. Waiting to hear back if we get the grants.
 - Encouragement for paraprofessionals and other staff that are already with us to pursue getting a license as well.
 - GT department has been doing a great job to identify students of color for GT program. Have met goals.
 - Growth comes from expansion of programming; GT program doing universal screening; GT program is unable to utilize race or free and reduced lunch in determining ; coordinators work with teachers to point out characteristics, but good to have more information for teachers to take into account cultural differences as well. Do principals evaluate how many teachers in their schools recommend students for GT programming?
 - Social Emotional Learning/ADHD considerations as well.
 - OEE supports avid program. OEE leadership group. Hillcrest community school helps to get more diverse kids into Hillcrest because it is a community school.
 - DDEAC committee is another parent group that reviews and provides feedback on the World's Best Workforce. District wide diversity association committee.
 - Need to know who to talk to regarding information about Valley View Elementary/Valley View Middle School's seeming goal to recruit white students from other parts of Bloomington to VV in the Nobel program.
 - Can discuss questions/suggestions with Richard Scott. rscott@isd271.org
 - Regarding preschool, distance learning preschool teachers did a great job last year. Will that kind of work continue? Will still have some families that are not able to come in. Yes, we are continuing it; we have an online DL situation where students with preschool

backgrounds (3 and 4 year olds); have an online option now. Also have online ECCE parent education in the evenings.

8:20-8:50

New Course Proposals
Beth Flottmeier, Curriculum & Instruction Director

- New Course Proposals discussed above. AP courses discussed above; proposals are to begin next year.
 - Proposed AP courses are: AP Calculus, AP Statistics, AP Biology, AP US History and AP Language and Composition Seminar
- **Curriculum Review Update** - Beth Flottmeier

	Phase 1: Initial Curriculum Review	Phase 2: Units of Study & Assessment Development	Phase 3: Implementation
2021-22	English Language Arts Science(9-12)	Science(6-8)	Science (K-5) Media Arts Theater Arts

- For Language Arts, Rolling out phonics and word study first for K-5
 - 6-12 will roll it out differently
- Question: Are the current curriculum maps published on the district website?
 - No, but Beth can put these on the website and she will show them tonight.
- Implementing Science (K-5) this year.
 - Evidence-based; there was a lot of background to provide to teachers first.
- Science (6-8) are developing curriculum this year.
- Science (9-12) - Earth and Science course licensure change. This one is in initial review this year. Science benchmarks will probably be brought to our next meeting.
- Usually receive a 3 Year window from when the standards are put out to when they need to be implemented. Some extended longer than 3 years due to COVID.
- Beth Flottmeier screen-shared the current curriculum review map for all areas (Physical Education, Arts, Science, Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, CTE, Health and World Languages).
 - English Language Arts had Phase 1 in 2020-21 and 2021-22 (extended due to COVID), will have Phase 2 in 2022-23 and 2023-24 and Phase 3 (implementation) after that.
 - Questions: What is the real difference with ELA standards now? Statewide interest in incorporating cultural/diversity into the benchmarks; foundational skills were their own entity before, but now they are in the 3 strands (reading, writing, speaking/viewing/exchanging ideas strands).
 - Teams of teachers are having discourse around benchmarks. Informative vs argumentative vs persuasive writing; where are they prioritized so they are assessed and how do they build upon each other?
 - Question: No writing on state assessments; teachers assess the writing; how do we know that growth is there for writing? When we work on units of study, they create assessments and see what "proficient" looks like. They create proficiency scales and they take writings that are exemplars. Teachers have help and extra eyes on the writing as well.

- Social studies will have a new framework, just like science did. Third version is done, but not released yet. Will start Phase 1 next year.
- Question: DA/Nobel program at High School Level, more leaning toward GT and AP rather than PSEO at Normandale? Had that relationship with Normandale, but have moved away from that relationship with Normandale. Do still have PSEO offerings for some classes, but trying to combine some AP classes (Composition one is a seminar to combine and accelerate).

8:50-9:00

Closing

Leila Sturz, Chair

- **Next Meeting: March 7, 2022**
- Leila moves to adjourn the meeting.
 - Helena seconds the motion to adjourn.
- Meeting adjourned.