

EISA Subcommittee Agenda 12/15/21, 4:30 - 5:30 pm

Room 121 - MS Wing

Draft of 11/18/21 minutes

In attendance: Chair Tammy Mahoney, School Board Subcommittee members Jamie Fitzpatrick and Dawn Dutton (remote from her home with no one in the immediate vicinity), Superintendent Tom Ambrose, Director of Teaching and Learning Patty Haynes, Director of Academic Intervention, Assessment, and Accountability Christine Desrochers, Director of Guidance Heidi Leavitt, HS Principal Brian Stack, MS Principal Matt Malila, Memorial Principal Ryan McCloskey, Bakie Principal Troy Kennett . Called to order by Chair Mahoney at 4:30 pm. Minutes of the 10/20/21 meeting were reviewed and approved by a roll call vote.

Dr. Haynes reported on the progress of the new K-6 math curriculum rollout, which is progressing smoothly but still with the need to backfill gaps from the previous math program. The 7-12 selection process is underway. Mr. Fitzpatrick inquired about feedback from teachers on Envision, which is generally positive with regard to pacing and student engagement. Mr. McCloskey noted that it does require more reading, and that 4th/5th grade teachers find the online components more useful. Dr. Kennett noted that for K-3rd graders there are some challenges with independent practice, and that in general much of the focus for the younger students this year is on regaining academic tolerance and concentration levels.

Mr. Malila reported that the HS Graduation Committee met regarding the 24 credit diploma, and this will be phased in gradually for each grade level. Mr. Stack also shared 2 options under consideration for the bell schedule. In the first, classes would meet every day for the same block of time, roughly 35-40 minutes. In the second, that model would be offered for 3 days, with the next 2 days of classes having longer blocks of 60-70 minutes. The first model is logistically simpler, but lacks larger blocks of time for deeper learning. Mr. Ambrose noted that in his experience the 3/2 model offers flexibility, and that logistical challenges aren't insurmountable.

Ms. Leavitt discussed the changes being considered to the diploma with distinction, which is currently achieved by earning more credits than the standard diploma requires. The goal is for it to be more rigorous and meaningful, possibly to include a capstone project.

Ms. Desrochers provided an overview of the Intervention program. The goal is for each student to demonstrate adequate yearly growth. All students receive Tier 1 or universal instruction with the classroom teacher, where students are grouped according to skills assessed from performance testing (such as NWEA). Students who are struggling are moved to Tier 2 for targeted instruction in a small group setting, where goals are set and progress is measured. Students who continue to struggle are moved to Tier 3 for intensive instruction with more frequent monitoring. The High School has 1 ELA and 1 Math intervention teacher. The Middle School has 1 Literacy intervention teacher and an Applied Math teacher. Memorial and Bakie each have 1 ELA and 1 Math intervention teacher and Bakie also has a Math paraprofessional. Ms. Desrochers noted that this is a very different approach for the staff and expressed appreciation for their efforts to implement it this year.

Dr. Haynes reported that the NHDOE notified districts that student assessment data they uploaded to their public website has not been authenticated and is not yet available for districts' use. The target is for them to have it available in December.

Dr. Haynes reported briefly that feedback from parents on report cards has been positive, with fewer questions than in previous years. Mr. Fitzpatrick commented that he would like additional information provided to explain how the grades are weighted.

Meeting was adjourned by Chair Mahoney at 5:50 pm.

Call to order

Approve 11/18/21 minutes

1. NH Statewide Assessment Results
2. Grading - how grades are reported, decaying average purpose and examples
3. NEASC Update
4. HS Schedule committee update

Public Comment

Next meeting date 1/19/22

Next meeting agenda items -

Adjourn