Curriculum & Assessment

MINUTES MARCH 6, 2018 6:30PM SAU BOARDROOM

TYPE OF MEETING	Curriculum & Assessment Committee
FACILITATOR	Sue Sherman and Christi Michaud
ATTENDEES	B. Rincon, S. Allaire, S. Sherman, P. Bealo, M. Auger, K. Henderson, R. Carlson, C. Michaud, L Cantos, M. MacDonald, M. Widman, L Paul, Dr. K Farrah, M Flynn, C DeRoche. S Strainge & K. McKechnie in attendance to present.
AGENDA	Previously disseminated

Quote: The task of the modern education is not to cut down jungles but to irrigate desserts. –C. S Lewis

Meeting called to order by Sue Sherman at 6:30PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM **2/6/2018**. MOTION TO APPROVE BY L. PAUL, SECONDED BY M WIDMAN

YES: 11 NO: 0 ABSTAIN 2

Preschool Curriculum

DISCUSSION	By Mary Widman, Kathy McKechnie & Melissa MacDonald
 7 Domains including Social and Emotional Development: Sense of Self, Early Numeracy: 	
Counti	ng and Cardinality, Early Literacy: Concepts of Print, Science, Physical Development:
Body A	wareness and Control, Large Muscle and Small Muscle Development and Coordination
• 21 st ce	ntury skills included but from the Early Learning Framework
Pre-Sc	hool working on the heels of K-12
• We are	e one of the few Preschools in NH with written curriculum
 Has be 	en studying the social and emotional components for some time and this has been
helpfu	I when reporting to the state on how effective our programs are

	Motion to Move the PreK Curriculum to the school board by B Rincon & second by R Carlson.
CONCLUSIONS	Vote: 12 Yes and 1 abstain

Extended Learning Block Updates

DISCUSSION	M Flynn and S Strainge
Mike-1st	ever Vendor Bingo night next Wednesday 6PM instead of the yardsale this year

- Mike February Block scheduling advisory committee met (15 members grade 6-12) to report
 out. It went very well! At the end of the year the committee will send out a formal survey to
 solicit feedback from parents students and staff
- Every snow day seemed to fall on a B day...we are looking at this and trying to come up with a more flexible solution.
- Positive: No Bells make for a more seamless transition. Pinkerton group visiting commented on this and how well it was working without bells.
- UA and World Language classes are not blocked at MS and they are jealous and are looking to figure out a way to add more minutes to their schedule.
- Work on: some teachers need to move toward movement in the classroom
- Scott: Semester 1 classes-passing rates are consistent the past 5 years. Increase in the number of A's by 4% all others stayed about the same, flexibility for upper class schedules, Q2 passing rate stayed consistent as well. Regarding Mathematics semester long classes pass rates are consistent and increase in total enrollments. Music pass rate similar grade trends as well. World Language no semester classes. Q2 consistent in math and 41% more students taking math. Discipline incidents down and attendance/class cuts are down. All staff looking at the 5 year trends and having discussions with administration.
- Mike: went quarters to trimesters as well as block changes. Couldn't compare ½ way point this
 year and last year, Star dates changed so we couldn't compare star data. Christine: Benchmark
 data students above increased in grade 6, 7 & 8. We have opportunity block and reading block
 now to help students improve.

Questions/comments:

Dr. K Farrah had a question regarding the cost related to Block scheduling as well as students tardy. AP courses and snow days...concerns around pacing. R Carlson feels this is a problem in all schools in NE due to weather not really just a TRSD problem. We just need to make the most of the opportunities we have. All disciplines seem to see this concern but are working through it.

B Rincon-Admin have more time in the day to work on other things other than doing discipline...more meaningful work on curriculum and being in the classroom.

CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Middle School Preparations for Competency Reporting

DISCUSSION M Flynn & C DeRoche

- Parent communication-2 info parent nights first in May 6th grade parent night to go over new report card 6th grade parents are already used to this. Sept we will have a technology night for parents to access PowerSchool Pro and they can work out problems and questions with Lois and her team
- Parent handbook will include elements of the elem. brochure
- PowerSchool-report card mike, Christine and Ken met to look at options and aligns well with elementary. Wants it to be parent friendly...looking at one from Kentucky- very parent friendly.
- Work study rubric-staff helping with this roll out starting next year with 6th grade.
- PLC time will work on preparing 6th grade teachers and possibly other PD
- Action plan on soft skills and mindfulness, Formative Five Training

6th grade report card next year, 7th grade the following year and a decision will be made about 8th grade next year as well

CONCLUSIONS

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

Final words

DISCUSSION P Bealo

• Peter Bealo-Wall street Journal article on trade schools...read the final short paragraph. My last official school board member meeting. Thank you for allowing me to participate in this committee and I have learned quite a bit. Thank you for your patience. Sometimes I am a bit direct but I am proud of everything this group has done. I will be watching what you do. Algebra I at MS give them credit same thing as Spanish 1, offer some low enrollment HS classes (project Lead the way) possibly alternating years. Suggest reducing the amount of sections on Microsoft essentials but instead offer more software classes, elementary math remote learning opportunities using MS math teacher have him/her interface with all elementary schools.

CONCLUSIONS

QUOTE: A cynic was a man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing." ~Oscar Wilde

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Summer Work Policy

DISCUSSION C Michaud

- Summer Work Policy- Parent concerns with what the actual expectations were for summer work. Engage students in meaningful opportunities in the summer months and assist with regression.
 - Reviewed Policy last revised 12-19-13.
 - Kim has the NH School Board policy on this and ours differs greatly. Legal reference in policy is incorrect. The language in our current policy differs.
 - Windham policy shared
 - We tried to make summer work more consistent throughout the district 2 years ago

CONCLUSIONS

- We decided upon the following recommendations for the policy committee:
 - Look at the existing IHCA policy, and review, update the legal reference- Ed306.141(a)(7) and change the last sentence in 1st paragraph to: "There will be required summer work." Each school has their own specific "procedures". Elementary and MS will tighten up their procedures.

 To review NH School Board Policy and Windham School District IHCA - Summer Activities for sample policy language. To create IHCA - R to reflect the elementary, middle, and high school procedures for summer work at each level - (The MS and HS will submit their procedural language to C. Michaud and she will get it to you for IHCA-R). 		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

"Final Words"

DISCUSSION	S Sherman
Sue Sherman "This is our last meeting before the elections. I do hope I get put back on this committee but it is at the discretion of the new chair. If that doesn't happen I just want to let everyone know that I appreciated your work this year I do hope I stay assigned to this committee. It has been a pleasure working with all of you."	
ODCED/EDC	
OBSERVERS	
RESOURCE PERSON	
SPECIAL NOTES	Meeting adjourned at 8:09PM