

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**  
**Academic Achievement Committee and Public Hearing**

Tuesday, March 21, 2017  
Board Chambers/Auditorium  
9:00 A.M.

Present: Rev. John Matias, Maureen Slade, Katherine Downes-Lewis, Carolyn Evans, Mel Atkins, II, Dr. Mulonge Kalumbula, Rozanne Wahl, Amy Powney, Pat Reagan, Stephanie Painter, Tori Berg  
Absent: Raynard Ross

**Public Comment(s)-**

**Instructional Council Update**

Pat Reagan, School Reform Facilitator and chairperson for Instructional Council, shared the Instructional Council minutes that took place Thursday, March 17, 2017. For 2017-2018 school years, students in the Global Technology class will begin using the productivity software apps that will be installed on Chromebooks. The curriculum for this course will be adjusted to reflect the change in the hardware and the software proposed.

Council members reflected on the timeline used to present new courses to ensure that it coincides with the timing of student course selection process.

Dr. Mulonge Kalumbula, Curriculum Supervisor for Social Studies and Instructional Council member provided an update on the Global Studies Course. It is in its first year of implementation at the comprehensive middle schools in grades six through eight. This course addresses the technology skills that students need to be successful in high school and beyond. Dr. Kalumbula will continue the study of this course and provide updates as needed.

There were no new courses presented. The next Instructional Council meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2017.

**MSTEP/SAT Assessments**

Rozanne Wahl, Dr. Mulonge Kalumbula, and Amy Powney, Curriculum Supervisors for English Language Arts, Social Studies and Math respectively, shared the M-Step preparation process. Testing will begin the week after spring break in grades 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. In August of 2016, the district identified the priority areas: knowledge of the standards, backwards mapping, and assessment literacy. Each priority places an emphasis on the taught, assessed and mastered curriculum, supports our theory of improvement and focus on improved achievement. As a result, principal leadership and building professional learning has been aligned to the priorities. Some of the topics include:

- Analysis and unpacking of the M-Step and common assessment tests results, and Michigan standards to understand skills gaps as well as what students must know and do to demonstrate proficiency.
- Standards based instruction.
- Backward mapping instruction from the standards and formative and summative assessment expectations.

The resources used to support the standards based classroom instruction are:

- Data analysis templates
- Standards based curriculum pacing documents
- Edify
- Google Classroom
- Complex text book lists
- Building and classroom visits with immediate feedback that focus on the three district priorities.
- Practice performance tasks
- Focus on test taking strategies including the use of digital tools

M-Step binders were developed for school and classroom support. Binders include the following information:

- Description of the M-step claims and assessment targets.
- M-step claims/targets and standards crosswalk.
- M-step blueprint that includes claims and assessment targets.
- Question stems for each claim and aligned to standards.
- Sample Smarter Balanced Tests.

We want to give the students and teachers experience with using pencil and paper online assessments during the course of the year. The district worked with KISD to offer common assessments and practice assessments online to give schools an opportunity to gauge their students' ability to navigate digital tools and test the capacity of their technology infrastructure. These tests are optional; however, their use is highly encouraged.

### **Parent Engagement**

Mel Atkins II, Executive Director of Community and Student Affairs provided information on Parent Engagement.

Our district beliefs include:

Every parent:

- Has the potential to be become a better parent.
- Wants to help their children succeed.

Every student:

- Has the potential to learn and achieve academic success at a high level.

The desired outcome of this strategy is to support partnerships between families, schools and the community. The focus areas include the following:

- Parent Engagement partnerships that support families, schools and community partnerships
- Parent Action Leaders who serve as liaison between the district families and schools
- District wide attendance challenge
- Parent Teacher Community Council
- Parent University where parents engage in face to face and online course

The 2016 – 2017 Parent Engagement goals are:

- Goals
  - Decrease chronic absenteeism by 10% district wide

- Increase parent engagement in support of student success
- Improve recruitment and retention
- Key strategies include:
  - Communicating directly with parents as the primary means of sharing information
  - Involving parents in the decision making process
  - Communicating key messages from community partners to parents
  - Aligning parent engagement organizations to work closely with community partners such as KSSN and the DeVos Foundation

Meeting adjourned. 10:05 a.m.

---

Rev. John Matias, Chairperson  
Raynard Ross  
Maureen Slade  
Katherine Downes Lewis

/dct

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**  
**Public Hearing for the Reproductive Health Committee Curriculum**

Tuesday, March 21, 2017  
Board Chambers/Auditorium  
10:00 A.M.

Present: Rev. John Matias, Maureen Slade, Katherine Downes-Lewis, Carolyn Evans,  
Stephanie Painter, Tori Berg  
Absent: Raynard Ross

**Public Comment(s)-NONE**

Mrs. Carolyn Evans, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, and Tori Berg, Co-Chair of the Reproductive Health Committee shared the work that has taken place over the past two years. In 2015-2016 school years, the committee began a thorough review of the curriculum that was in current use. During our process of review, we asked key questions such as:

- Do the materials meet the mandates of the law? Committee members became well versed in the A to K rubric provided by the state of Michigan.
- Do the materials contain offensive, biased, or inaccurate information?
- Are the materials age appropriate and user friendly/
- Was there a way to assess student's understanding of the content?
- Are there any concerns?

The Sex Education Advisory Board is responsible for:

- Establishing program goals and objectives for pupil knowledge and skills that are likely to reduce the rates of sex, pregnancy, and STD's.
- Reviewing and recommending materials
- Evaluating, measuring, and reporting the attainment of program goals and objectives

The committee membership consists of:

- Local clergy
- Educators
- Community health professionals
- Parents of children attending the schools in our district
- Students

The Reproductive Health Committee began their work together by agreeing upon a mission statement. The mission of the GRPS Sexual Education Advisory Committee is "To provide students and families' information and facts that result in measurable reductions in health risk behaviors including teen pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases and promotes informed decision making and self-advocacy. "

It was decided that the mission would guide the committee work and strategy formation moving forward.

The state law requires districts to provide instruction addressing dangerous communicable diseases, including, but not limited to, HIV/AIDS. (§380.1169) Instruction must be offered at least once a year at every level (elementary, middle/junior, senior high).

If a district chooses to provide reproductive health education, the state provides “The Reproductive Health Requirements” that must guide this work. They are (1) Benefits of abstaining until marriage (2) Emotional, economical, and legal consequences of sex (3) Laws pertaining to their responsibilities as parents (4) Teach students how to say “No” (5) Refusal skills and the power to control personal behaviors (6) Age appropriate and medically accurate (7) Best methods of the restriction and prevention of diseases (8) Healthy and non-healthy dating relationships (9) Adoption services (10) Consequences of having sex or sexual contact with an individual under the age of 16.

Final Results were Parents and Committee Members voted in support of the Michigan Model Sexual Reproductive Health Curriculum for the middle and high school levels.

Meeting adjourned. 10:35 a.m.

---

Rev. John Matias, Chairperson  
Raynard Ross  
Maureen Slade  
Katherine Downes Lewis

/dct