

REPORT OF COMMITTEE
Academic Achievement Committee and Public Hearing

Tuesday, May 16 2017
Board Chambers/Auditorium
9:00 A.M.

Present: Rev. John Matias, Raynard Ross, Maureen Slade, Katherine Downes Lewis, Carolyn Evans, Laura LaMore, Dr. Mayda Bahamonde-Gunnell, Steve Petros, Rozanne Wahl, Amy Powney, Pat Reagan

Absent: None

Public Comment

None.

Instructional Council Update

Ms. Pat Reagan, school reform coordinator, provided Instructional Council updates. There were no new courses presented at the April 20, 2017 meeting. Ms. Amy Powney, math curriculum supervisor provided the Council with an update on two mathematics resources:

- Go Math!
 - Go Math was selected by the Elementary Math Textbook Adoption Committee for K-5 implementation and is currently being piloted at Congress Elementary, César E. Chávez Elementary, and Campus Elementary building-wide. There is consideration of expanding the pilot some middle school classes next year.
- Algebra Nation <http://www.algebranation.com/mi/>
 - The Michigan Department of Education has provided a fully-funded resource called Algebra Nation to support our Algebra I students in meeting proficiency on the Algebra I standards.
 - These free resources include individual Algebra Nation student workbooks which accompany and compliment the online instructional resources and videos intended to reinforce and differentiate Algebra I content.
- Ms. Powney provided two professional development sessions in March 2017 for the implementation of Algebra Nation. The Participants in these sessions were able to:
 - Work collaboratively with colleagues to learn about and explore the Algebra Nation resources.
 - Engage in learning how to use the resources to enhance whole group instruction, differentiation, student collaboration, and provide opportunities for dynamic assessment.
 - Create a personal plan for how they will implement use of Algebra I classes to support students in mastering the Algebra I content and standards.
- The next Instructional Council meeting scheduled is May 18, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Innovation Central High School.

Third Grade Reading Law-Public Act 360

Mr. Steve Petros, assessment and evaluation specialist and Rozanne Wahl, ELA curriculum supervisor provided information on the Third Grade Reading Law-Public Act 306.

Mr. Petros shared that Michigan ranked 41st in the nation in the area of 4th grade reading achievement as measured by the NAEP. However, Michigan's test scores on both the Michigan-based M-STEP ELA assessment and the NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) reading assessment have shown a need for attention to early reading and literacy. As a result, Michigan Lawmakers passed Public Act 306 and it went into effect in October 2016. The purpose of this law is to ensure that more students become proficient in reading by the end of 3rd grade. The law requires extra support for K-3 students who demonstrate insufficient literacy skills. Students may also be retained at the end of 3rd grade if they are one or more grade levels behind in reading.

Some of the requirements of the law include:

- Ongoing assessments that provided actionable data
- Instruction in phonic awareness phonics, comprehensive
- Creation of an individual reading improvement plan for any K-3 student with a reading deficiency
- Notification of parents and a provision for at home reading
- Professional development targeting early literacy and the five reading components
- Use of a literacy coach
- Possible summer reading camps staffed by highly effective teachers providing reading intervention services and supports

What do parents need to know? Parents are encouraged to be involved with this important aspect of their student's education. They should also be aware of the following:

- If the child's reading is below grade level, they can expect the following interventions:
 - Extra instruction or support in the area of need
 - Ongoing checks on reading progress
 - A read at home plan
 - If the child is retained, the parent has the right to meet with the school officials and request an exemption, if in the best interest of the child
 - Reading progress will be closely monitored

When this year's kindergarten class (2016-2017) reaches 3rd grade

- The student will not be promoted to the 4th grade unless they
 - Receive a reading score within less than one year behind on grade three ELA state assessment (M-STEP) or
 - Show a grade three reading level on another test approved by Superintendent of Public Instruction or
 - Show a grade three reading level through a portfolio, or collections, of student work in all grade three ELA standards
 - A student will only be required to repeat 3rd grade once

Considerations may be made if the student

- Has an IEP or 504 plan
- Is English Language Learner (second language learner)
- Has had intensive intervention for two years and was previously retained
- Has been enrolled in current district for less than two years and did not receive previous reading support
- Is at grade level in all other subjects

- Is in the best interest of the student and requested within 30 days of notification
- Note: Requests for exemption will be reviewed by the district Superintendent

Early Childhood Yearly Report

Mr. Matthew Beresford, director of early childhood education provided an overview on Early Childhood Education. Their mission was developed two and half years ago, when they started working together between the Early Childhood Special Education Preschool (ECSE) and the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) to merge the two models. The primary goal is to provide a high quality preschool experience that prepares students socially, emotionally, cognitively, and physically for their kindergarten year. The program partners with families and teachers to ensure the readiness of our four year old preschoolers. The program staff communicates with the parents by conducting a fall and spring home visit with the families of every student in the program.

The recruitment and retention of the next class of preschoolers have increased significantly.

- During the school year 2013-2014, a total of 479 students were enrolled in GSRP programs.
- There are approximately 783 students already enrolled in the program for the 2017-2018 school year.
- The numbers of classrooms have increased from 17 to 26 between 2013-2014 and 2017-2018.

All teachers are elementary certified with the state and possess the additional Early Childhood ZA or ZS endorsement. All classrooms also have a paraprofessional who possesses a Child Development Associates (CDA). Teachers have transitioned to the teaching strategies, student assessments, and lesson plans which are aligned to Michigan Early Childhood Standards.

Meeting adjourned 10:07 a.m.

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

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