

School Council Agenda

January 18, 2018

Room A106

5:30 pm

1. Call to Order 5:33 pm
Present: Tara Bennett, Keri Vokes, Laura Cummings, Chris Beyer, Roger Desroisiers, Kathy Bien, Troy Cami, Lily Kimball
2. Public Comment – none
3. Approval of Minutes from 12/14/2017 - Approved
4. School Improvement Plan
 - District Improvement plan – 3-year plan which ends at the completion of the 2017-2018 school year
 - Discussed with Department Leaders Meeting ideas for where we are looking to move for next year
 - School Improvement Goal 1 –
 - utilizing data into action plan
 - common language is now understood and departments are discussing findings with one another both formally and informally
 - Resulting in changes in instructions and implementation, may not see results until next year for full year courses depending on the focus
 - Department Leaders have expressed that they have learned how to zoom in on macro data and filter it down to one or two focus points
 - Keri Vokes used the Data in Action plan with the feedback on the Wellness Camp for students
 - We now have the same language throughout the district and can have conversations with staff from other schools
 - Having Sue Tarallo go full time as data coach has been incredible in supporting DIA implementation
 - The expectations is for staff to complete two full cycles of DIA this school year
 - School Improvement Goal 2
 - PD day in October fully focused on this goal – common language, depth of knowledge and rigor, correlating assessment questions, state assessment questions, and common assessment
 - Common assessments are what will drive the Data in to action plan to continuously occur
 - We have started our ELA curriculum review – 7th grade curriculum being “blown up” for next year based on findings of what students are and are not getting
 - Also working on getting an ELA program in the younger grades for continuity
 - Other departments are not doing as in-depth work as we are on a cycle for curriculum review – History is up next as the new standards will be coming out this year
 - Curriculum mapping will continue

- School Improvement Goal 3
 - We focused on expanding leadership opportunities for staff
 - Examples – Staff led PD after school in google suite, google classroom; staff taking lead in jr high common planning time;
 - Pineapple Chart – run by one of our teachers where teachers can invite others to come into their classroom and view lessons
 - Learning Walk – three groups went through multiple classrooms to view on-goings
- School Improvement Goal 4
 - Social emotional – providing resources for student, staff and community
 - This is the one goal we are still a little iffy on
 - We were accepted into exSEL Coalition – grant opportunity where we are unpacking what we already doing and receiving resources
 - Due to feedback from Wellness Camp, we will be creating a wellness team moving forward in February
 - This goal is moving forward and we are looking to keep it and revise it for next year
 - Looking to hold another Wellness Camp in March
 - Health 101 – articles used in health classes as a resource; also used by students on own as a resource; we would like to get it out to parents to access link
 - We get to preview what next month’s articles will be and can suggest ideas for articles; we can also post things as well that have to do with health and wellness
 - Growth Mindset Book read offered to staff at the beginning of the school year with last book read on February 8th
 - Jenn, Miriam and Tara coordinate activities together and have meetings run together with staff from all 3 schools sometimes
 - Community Book Read at the library – “The Happy Student” by Daniel Wong on March 15th, the 3 school principals are getting together to host this one night event; challenges people to find their own path – “run your own race”; it’s not all about grades and academic; Babysitting Services provided by MHS
 - Times have changed – it used to be all about academics, you go to high school, then college, military or get married
 - Students may take detours and encounter conflicts along the way figuring out their own path
- District Improvement Plan will be developed in the February, with the School Improvement then made based off of that
- Comments/Suggestions
 - For those students who have very little interest in their learning, how do we reach them and motivate them?
 - Research for Social Emotion – the more connected and supported students feel, the more we can interest them in their own learning; as we move forward with identifying students with social-emotional needs and mental illnesses that we can use evidence-based practices to help these students
 - We are working with other districts and exSEL grant to help bring in programs to support these students

- Idea from students POV – show students interesting jobs that a degree is needed for to interest students more in learning. Job Career, have people come in and speak about their careers
- Looking into Chromebooks for students – Shaw is looking to move towards a 2 to 1 next year; high school looking to go 1 to 1 in the next couple of years
- Blended Learning – how to bring in the technology and use it as a tool to enhance instruction
- NEASC Rubrics – rollout for staff at next interdisciplinary meeting, however this will probably not make it into the Improvement Plan; could be a piece but not a goal on its own
- We purposely did not have NEASC as a goal as we should be reflecting on what we have in place for curriculum, instruction, and assessment which is then reflected in NEACS report
- Conversations from Principal Round Table – cultural sensitivity and supporting different cultures better than we do now such as different food weeks; former student came back with ideas based on exposure from college about what we need to do. He will be back in March to discuss ideas
- School trips – not all students will be able to go on the large trip we do for juniors and seniors so looking at possibilities for smaller field trips to expose students to different cultures
- Beautification walks – looking at ways to expose and celebrate students
- Dialogues going on now were rare 10-15 years ago so it is very positive to see these meaningful conversations and changes coming about
- Youth Risk Survey coming up soon – general well-being, sexual wellness, drug/alcohol use, suicidality
- Student feedback on Panorama Survey - previous results showed lack of connectivity which is why we implemented activity blocks and Freshmen Into Action

5. Old Business – None

6. New Business

- March date – Community Read conflicts with School Council meeting date
- **Next School Council Meeting – Wednesday March 14th** where we will discuss Student Handbook with Mr. Lowe
- Feedback from Parent Conferences
 - i. Challenge when parent has two kids and accommodating travel time
 - ii. Amount of time for conference is good
 - iii. Student rang bell every 5 minutes to keep meetings on track
 - iv. Teachers were very accommodating
 - v. Challenging since we are a 7-12 school and share staff, thus we cannot do 2 nights
- Next Meeting – February 15th at 5:30 pm

7. Adjournment 6:43 pm