

# Minutes IC Meeting November 21, 2013

**Meeting attendance:** Maria Aguiniga, Barbara Bettis, Chris Bucchi, Cheryl DeRoo, Carl Draeger, Sara Elwood, Heather Fodor, Cyndee Fralick, Dominique Garcia, Judy Havemann, Carol Mammoser, Josefina Melendez, Kelly O'Brien, Lisa Olsem, Craig Pflueger, Claudia Sanchez, Katie Stan, Esperanza Villareal-Ortiz, Rita Weber, Jennifer Williamson, Mary Wojtczak

**Absent:** Mark Atkins, Kathy Duchaj, Raheem Hasan, William Jackson, Jackie Johnson, Wilma Valero

**Guests/Observers:**

**October Minutes** reviewed/revised and approved with – 18 yes, none opposed, 2 abstained

## **Informational Updates**

### **PARCC Math**

- Council viewed math power point presented by Kevin Wiland and Hilda Curda
- One assessment will be performance based and will be hand scored and machine scored.
- Diagnostic Assessment, Mid-Year Assessment – Speaking and listening assessment are optional. District has the ultimate decision if these tests are going to be optional. Students from grade 3-11 will be tested in math.
- Currently a K-1 test is being developed grades 3-11 currently there is no assessment for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.
- The math test will have a reading component.
- Total questions will number between 82 and 107 dependent.
- There will be calculator guidelines, grade 3-5 will not use a calculator, grade 6-7 will be able to use an online calculator, 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be able to use a scientific calculator and high school students will be able to use a graphing calculator (T184).
- Freshmen are taking Geometry. Assessments are not grade dependent.
- All grade level content must be addressed. Passing will be determined by individual students.
- If the district has not met the technology requirements for PARCC testing, there will be a paper and pencil option for the first year only.
- Test can be taken with any device with a 10 inch screen, keyboard and mouse.
- Duration of tests has not been established yet.
- ELL students as of right now will be tested in English.
- PARCC will have summer webinars to inform teachers of the assessments. Common Core has been releasing YouTube videos on how to teach certain standards.

### **Council Questions:**

- There has been a recent math curriculum adoption. A question was asked if the intent was to adjust the curriculum cycle?
  - Response: No due to financial considerations.
- Who will be doing the hand scoring?
  - Response: We will be sending it midyear and the formative will be scored by teachers if we choose to give the test.
- Does the council have the power to decide if we as a district should give the diagnostic tests?
  - Response: We could give feedback and suggest it should be taken.

### **Transformation Task Force**

- Viewed power point presentation on Transformation Task Force progress. Information was presented by Tony Sanders and Doreen Roberts.
- Council member commented on adding a 9<sup>th</sup> period class for MS, would be very beneficial.
- Community members and parents have been involved with the Transformation Task Force as well and we have received feedback from them.
- The ETA website has a Transformation Task Force tab with a lot more detailed information on everything the Task Force has been working on.

### **Council Questions**

- Who will determine if all Elementary Schools will have early release days?
  - Response: Every school will be different; it will depend on parent engagement.
- Has there been community feedback with regards to the early release calendar?
  - Response: Community members were part of the committee.
- What about the students who have working parents?
  - Response: We'll have to work together the best we can.

### **Initial Proposal Presentations**

#### **MS Speech & Debate**

- Viewed PowerPoint Presentation.
- The goal of the speech and debate curriculums is to offer all U-46 students a course that develops students' ability to communicate effectively.
- Implementation: Speech Option for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders as a part of rotation sequence.
- Speech is a pre-requisite for Debate. Intent is for the course to be implemented 2014-2015
- *Speak Out Debate and Public Speaking* is the recommended text which has a Lexile of 900.

- Professional Development for teachers includes:
  - Yearly PD in August which includes modeling and unpacking strategies.
  - Quarterly: Newsletters to include learning activities, standard aligned assessments, and culturally relevant pedagogy practices.
  - Daily: Website/Livebinder created for MS Speech and Debate with resources.
- Program monitoring and evaluation
  - Student growth comparison of enrolled students to non-enrolled students on District Assessments including EPAS, Writing Assessments and MAP.
  - Classroom walkthroughs
  - Student performance on PARCC speaking and listening 2015-2016
- Speech can be incorporated in many content areas; it is an essential life skill.
- The curriculum is flexible and can be adjusted to be an 18 week course. With the current middle school structure, the course could be offered quarterly or as a semester course.

### **Council Questions:**

- Would a Speech and Debate class replace another class?
  - Response: No, it's an addition to the menu; we are giving students another option.
- If a student is in Project Lead the Way, can a student take speech/debate?
  - Response: Yes, there are quarterly cycles.
- How do you see this impacting the other classes? Do you think this will phase out another course?
  - Response: We don't see it as phasing out another class, we won't know until we start implementing. We just want to give students another choice.
- Will rotation teachers' job security be affected?
  - Response: the intent is not to take away teaching sections from anyone, but to add and improve learning opportunities for students
- Does Dr. Torres know about these classes coming to IC?
  - Response: We wouldn't be presenting to IC if he was not in favor of this proposal.
- If this course moves forward, how is this class going to be promoted, so students choose this?
  - Response: MS will shift to a new model for students to select classes and there will be an informational opportunity for parents and students.

### **AP Spanish Literature**

- Viewed PowerPoint presentation.
- With AP Spanish Literature as a class, the Spanish program can be expanded in order for high school students will have an opportunity to have 4 years of Spanish.
- Class will be taken completely in Spanish with emphasis in linguistic.
- The class curriculum will be aligned to the Common Core State Standards.
- Class will increase the opportunity for Heritage speakers to have success on an AP exam and earn college credit.

- The recommended book is Abriendo Puertas which is consumable and is also available online. A six year subscription will allow to have new textbooks for each year for 6 years. The book is also available online.
- Chrome books will help with recording and playing back students' own speaking, and access to many Spanish applications.
- With Chrome books, students will be able to email assignments and have all the information they need at their fingertips.
- To be enrolled in Heritage Spanish you have to speak Spanish at home.

### **Council Questions**

- Will there be enough students to run this entire program?
  - Response: Yes, we will be able to run one section at EHS and two sections at SHS. We hope to take in the ELL and DL students. Our aim is to enroll seniors that have a gap.
- Would you be able to track students to see if they minor in Spanish after high school?
  - Response: We would love to track that information.

### **Freshman Academic Seminar**

- Class includes:
  - Re-teaching and providing practice
  - Academic Self-management
  - Organizational Skills
  - Pro Social Skills
  - Increasing positive adult interactions
  - Teaching students to recruit necessary supports such as but not limited to teachers and school staff.
- Academy Concept
  - Academic and behavior support - receive data. We would identify the strongest teachers and pair them with these students.
  - Class would include APEX credit recovery.
- The student would take this course for one period and continue with the rest of their classes for the remainder of the day.
- Common Core alignment: College and career readiness anchor.
- A Social Worker and an interventionist would be in the classroom. There would be a total of 4 full time staff hire for the two high schools.
- High level intense research based intervention. Including:
  - Self-determination
  - Self-advocacy
  - Futures planning.
- This class is about prevention and is a Tier 2 intervention. If these skills are taught in Tier 2, students will benefit long term.
- Teachers would have Professional Development in the following areas.
  - Renew
  - Simeo
  - PBIS Systems Technical Support
  - Technical Assistance

- Data Review
- Collaboration

### **Council Questions**

- How were Elgin HS and Streamwood HS selected?
  - Response: These schools already have teams in place and are implementing PBIS at all levels and have well established supports. Our goal is to expand this class to all HS. This is just our starting point.
- Is there data to see what percentages of the students are male?
  - Response: Yes, have it. Have you thought about single sex classrooms? We've looked into it and have discussed it.
- How can you get parents to be more involved?
  - Response: We are having robust communications with them already.
- Have you had conversations with the middle schools about these students?
  - Response: Yes, but not all middle schools have a good communication system, some are better than others. We are looking into the schools that need more support.
- You are going to service 160 students spending \$300,000? Will all of this come from district funds or is there alternate funding?
  - Response: There is a Renew grant, which the district can apply for.

### **Summary Statements**

The Instructional Council received an overview of PARCC with a focus on Math in grades K-12.

The Instructional Council received a report from Doreen Roberts and Tony Sanders on the work of the Transformation Task Force

An initial presentation for Middle School Speech and Debate was presented to the Instructional Council.

An initial presentation for AP Spanish Literature was presented to the Instructional Council.

An initial presentation for a High School Academic Seminar class was presented to the Instructional Council.