



STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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■ EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES ■

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: TAD EVERETT

RE: DECEMBER 14, 2010, EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Purpose Statement

The purpose of the Sterling Public School's Education Committee is to continually address the improvement of student success academically and social emotionally. This will be accomplished by focusing on the improvement of curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices.

Committee SMART Goals

- Curriculum
 - Academic
 - The District School Improvement Team will continue to identify strategies to strengthen Tier 1 curriculum, measured by student achievement and identify necessary interventions by May of 2011.
 - Social Emotional
 - The District School Improvement Team will create a five-year Social-Emotional Learning Plan and commence its implementation by May of 2011.
- Instruction
 - Academic
 - The Curriculum and Instruction Director, along with the District School Improvement Team, will differentiate staff development based on student and staff needs.
 - Social Emotional
 - The District School Improvement Team will review current practice regarding Social-Emotional Learning Tier 1 curriculum, and set District guidelines, if appropriate, to ensure integrity by May of 2011.
- Assessment
 - Academic
 - Under the guidance of the District School Improvement Team, each school will develop a problem solving plan that meets the updated Illinois State Board of Education special education eligibility/entitlement guidelines by December of 2010.
 - Working with the District School Improvement Team, each grade level span will create and implement a Response to Intervention Rubric with clearly identified assessment cut scores for student identification in each tier by May of 2011.
 - Social Emotional
 - Sterling Public Schools will utilize the SWIS program in order to assess student learning in terms of discipline and application of Tier 1 curriculum by May of 2011.

In Attendance: Chair Gail Dancey, Marc Geil, Gonzalo Reyes, Tad Everett, Cheryl Robinson, Jason Austin, and Jill Froeter.

Meeting Notes:

1. **Call to Order** – 5:19 PM in the SHS Library Conference Room
2. **Public Comment** – None
3. **Curriculum and Instruction – Cheryl Robinson**
 - a. **PBIS Update**
 - The PBIS Leadership Committee met last week and reviewed a self assessment tool.
 - On the January 7th institute day, the group will meet again to establish policy. The step after that will be creating an action plan.

- b. Common Core Standards
 - Mrs. Robinson has conducted an overview of the new standards with small groups of teachers.
 - She will meet with all K-8 teachers regarding the standards at the January institute. They will look at existing gaps in curriculum, and if there are things that may be removed or moved to a different grade level.
 - Vertical alignment with the new standards will come later.

4. Student Services

- a. SHS Reclassification PSAE Data – Jason Austin
 - Mr. Austin explained a chart of information on students who were reclassified by their credits earned and their achievement on assessments such as PLAN and ACT.
 - He explained that the data shows that students who have been reclassified by credits and take an assessment later than they would have, tend to score in the predicted score range.
 - Mr. Austin feels that Rtl interventions will make a difference in at-risk student achievement of credits, but we won't know that until the data has been collected for a couple of years.

5. Superintendent – Tad Everett

- a. Apple Briefing
 - Mr. Everett stated that eight District representatives, including Mr. Reyes, will be attending an Apple Briefing on January 24th and 25th. Expenses will be paid for by Apple.
 - At this point, the District is just researching the idea of one-to-one computing for its educational value and also its financial cost.
 - Mr. Everett will present a report on the briefing to the Education Committee in February.
- b. NIU-Net
 - Mr. Everett attended a presentation for area superintendents on Northern Illinois University's NIU-Net grant.
 - This \$86.5 million technology grant is funded through ARRA, and will bring fiber optic to the area, substantially increasing participants' broadband width.
 - This part of the fiber optic project will start along Interstate 88 in March.
 - Schools would not have to have their own servers anymore, but there are costs to participate.
 - Mr. Everett will keep the Committee informed.

6. Data Requests

- a. None

7. Other

- a. Mrs. Dancey asked the Committee for input if having a Board member on the Accelerated Committee was necessary at this time. The Accelerated Committee has made great progress in the last two years, and she would like to withdraw. Mr. Everett stated that the Accelerated Committee should be referred to as the Accelerated Advisory. Its purpose is to provide input to the Education Committee. Mr. Everett will discuss the topic with Mrs. Dail and then bring it to a Board meeting for discussion.
- b. Next meeting – January 11, 2011, at 5:15 PM

8. Adjournment: 5:53 PM