

ACE Meeting Minutes

The purpose of the Advisory Council for Education is to provide a systematic representative public involvement in educational decisions under consideration by the Board of Directors.

Nov. 1, 2021
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Members Present

Sarah Blake, Sara Cofer, Judy Fay, Madison Griffith, Morigan Havelly, Kerri Helgeson, Kari Henderson-Burke, Britt Kleinman, Erica Knapp, Mary Levesque, Karrie Marsh, Anne McAlvey, Kimberly Meno, Gary Sabol, Chrys Sweeting, Sophie Willis

Guest Present

Gina Zeutenhorst

Call to Order

6:00 p.m.

Approve Minutes

Judy Fay made a motion, seconded by Kari Henderson-Burke, to approve the Oct. 4 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

Discipline Policy Review

Kerri Helgeson, Director of Equity and Student Well-Being, provided a review of the district's discipline policy to ACE.

The main points of the policy are:

- Keep kids in class to the maximum extent possible.
- Support students in meeting behavioral expectations.
- Discipline is administered in ways that respond to the needs and strengths of the students.
- Engage parents and families in decisions related to discipline procedure.

The discipline policy has changed a lot over the past few years. OSPI is developing training modules for schools to support fair outcomes in student discipline. OSPI rules provide multiple opportunities for meaningful parent and family communication (team approach). OSPI rules require district policies to identify best practices to support student behavior,

In Arlington, we are seeing more behavior incidents at all levels. Students are experiencing more social emotional needs and there are more meltdowns and lack of coping mechanisms (stress window is small). To help with this, Arlington has the following in place: Social-emotional curriculum; Student Support Advocates; Campus Monitor at Post/AHS; CARE team; Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS); School Resource Officer; and Student Threat Assessments.

School and District Improvement Plans

Kari Henderson-Burke, Executive Directory of Teaching and Learning, provided an update on School Improvement Plans (SIPs) and the District Improvement Plan (DIP).

She shared that we knew kids would need extra social-emotional support, extra academic support, they would be excited to be back in-person 5 days per week and they might struggle with coming back to 5 days per week.

The improvement planning starts early and goals can cover multiple years. They can also change over the course of a year. The plans align with our strategic plan and are written in a SMART format.

Our universal SIP goal: Arlington Schools Staff will increase collective efficacy in tier one instruction by embracing the UDL principles of variability and firm goals with flexible means.

Elementary Goals

- Implement PurposeFull People
- Common formative assessments
- GLAD and ELlevation to support students served in EL programs
- Number Talks

Middle School Goals

- PBIS learning and implementation
 - Training
 - Behavior Walks
 - Discipline Data
- Research-based strategies to build independent learners
 - SEL supports
 - Building culture

Stillaguamish Valley Learning Center Goals

- Meaningful Learning
 - On Site program (K-8)
 - Remote program (K-12)
 - AOP program (K-12)

High School Goals

- Freshman Success rate
- Safe and Caring Environment
- Closing the achievement gap for students with disabilities (Inclusion and Equity)
- Attendance

The District Improvement Plans are aligned to the Strategic Plan, support the work of the building, support student learning and are program or department specific.

Allocation Plan for ESSER Funds

Gina Zeutenhorst, Executive Director of Finance, shared with ACE the allocation plans for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds the district received from the federal government.

The funds can be used to safely reopen schools as soon as possible, restore and maintain high-quality learning environments, and to take comprehensive action to mitigate learning loss. The district use of the funds will be a combination of higher staffing and service levels and new costs to enrich, accelerate and support learning.

Funds Received and Uses:

- ESSER I in 2019-20, \$428K (Used for Technology Equipment 1:1 model of instruction (Chromebooks)
- ESSER II in 2020-21, \$1.6M (Used for school building instructional staff, summer school and technology equipment and staff.

- ESSER III in 2021-22, \$3.6M (Used for school building instructional staff, counseling staff and social emotional support, summer school, school building para staff, nursing staff and technology equipment and staff.

District/School Informational Update

Dr. Sweeting provided the following updates to the committee:

- County/District health status update
- Vaccination mandate update
- Academic Plan
- AHS Homecoming
- Election tomorrow

ACE potential topic to study

Sarah Blake asked if ACE would consider a potential topic to study.

Push for decarbonizing our schools, foundation to schools to commit to this, funds through legislature to upgrade buses to electric, HVAC systems, etc. Can we do more to be friendly to our earth?

- What would the study entail? Could be worth researching these ideas
- Where else can we be more earth friendly?
- It could save us money as a school district, energy saving equals money savings
- Also incorporate into education of students, teacher and students involved
- We applied for an electric bus grant but weren't successful
- The student advisors thought this was a good topic to study.
- Erica- Green Ribbon Schools
- Start in the lunchroom- food waste
- Inventory of what we already do
- Have Brian Lewis attend as well
- AHS has an ecology club, invite them to attend? Haller also has an environmental club, research which schools have clubs, research what they do.

Adjournment

Sarah Cofer made a motion, seconded by Mary Levesque, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.