

## 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.*

**Dec. 6, 2021**  
**6:00-7:30 p.m.**

### **Members Present**

Sarah Blake, Sarah Cofer, Erika Coghill, Montan Copenhaver, Autumn Engels, Judy Fay, Morigan Havelly, Kerri Helgeson, Kari Henderson-Burke, Ryan Johnson, Britt Kleinman, Mary Levesque, Karrie Marsh, Anne McAlvey, Gary Sabol, Chrys Sweeting

### **Guests Present**

Karl Olson, Haifa Iverson Mike and Mary Mallory

### **Call to Order**

6:00 p.m.

### **Approve Minutes**

Sarah Cofer made a motion, seconded by Judy Fay, to approve the Nov. 1 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

### **Discussion Topic- How can we become greener and more decarbonized?**

Sarah Blake shared a presentation with the members about how we can have 100% clean energy in Arlington Public Schools. She talked about the current status of greenhouse gases in Washington state, the reasons to electrify schools and buses, the health effects of fossil fuel pollution on children, how clean energy improves learning, expanding educational opportunities and listed districts throughout the region and country who have started down this path.

Arlington High School Ecology Club Advisor, Haifa Iverson, said she teaches her students the same things that Sarah shared. She devotes a large amount of time to this. Students are aware of the solar panels we have at the high school (20). These topics have also been discussed in the environmental science class. Get students outside in the ecology club, clean up trash. These activities make students feel better. Students work to promote environmental awareness. Actions include working to get rid of styrofoam, plastic in lunch room. They would also like to reduce the use of pesticides and bringing in electric car charging.

Chrys suggested inviting Brian Lewis to next meeting to pose some questions for the committee.

Britt- Did the districts meet their carbon neutral goal? What target date are you thinking of? What are the groups thoughts on this group?

Clean schools program, sponsored by Sierra Club, there are funds becoming available for this type of work, the planning will take the district a while, 10-20 years, if you're not starting to talk about it, you'll be further down the road. There are some districts who are committing to 100% carbon neutral.

A plan like this requires some tough choices, complete change of infrastructure to the district, moving from fossil fuel to electric, it's going to be difficult and long term. There are things that can be done along the way. Look at other districts' plans.

Montan- Do we know how much carbon the district currently produces? Maybe do a carbon assessment? PUD could come out and assess energy when installing solar panels.

Judy- Wondering if we could invite students from ecology club to talk to ACE? What concerns do they have? When does ecology club meet? On Tuesdays in AM/PM.

Should we have a subgroup, or task force from the group? Subgroup of ACE committee

### **Categorical Programs Overview**

Karl Olson, Director of Categorical Programs, provided an overview of Categorical Programs in Arlington Public Schools.

#### **Overview of Programs**

- **Title I, Part A**, Federal funds, PreK-12 for assistance in reading, writing, and math, Eagle Creek and Kent Prairie qualify for this program.
- **Learning Assistance Program (LAP)**, State funds, for K-12 assistance in reading, writing, math and readiness of those subjects, Behavior Intervention Support (C.A.R.E. team), All four elementary schools receive LAP funding
- **Transitional Bilingual**, State funds, to address the needs of eligible students so each may develop language proficiency that enables meaningful access to grade-level curricula and instruction, promotes a two-way language system of instruction.
- **Title III**, State funds, Supports supplemental instruction and services for language acquisition, provides language support for qualified students who are Native American/Alaska Native
- **Highly Capable Program (HCP)**, State funds through apportionment, to provide instruction, activities and services that accelerate learning and offer unique academic challenge for K-12 learners identified as highly capable. Students qualify for HCP through academic and cognitive assessments. A continuum of services must be offered and programming is designed based on the individual need of each student.

Britt- Are any of these program ones we have to apply for every year? We have to apply for them every year. LAP is one of the easiest to apply for but Title III takes a lot of work. You have to apply for it but also follow certain criteria. Important to gain input from families.

#### **Assessment Overview**

Kari Henderson-Burke, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, provided an assessment overview with the committee.

#### **What are the required assessments we have as a district this year?**

- SBAC- where are our strengths and areas of need?
- WCAS- WA Comprehensive Assessment of Science, Academic assessment for individual students, student groups, progress over time, system
- WA-AIM- Some students can't access SBAC or WCAS, this test is for them, measures the same three subject areas, these are often developed by our own teachers.
- WIDA (ELPA), World Class instructional design and assessment- K-12, only for EL students, happens annually
- WIDA ALLT- Similar to WA-AIM
- World Language Competency- for students that have a home language other than English, voluntary assessment, they can excuse their foreign language requirement
- COGAT- Cognitive abilities test- for Hi Cap services, we are now assessing every second grader in our district, any student can be tested at any time
- Literacy Screening - STAR Early Literacy Screening, iReady, RAN (Rapid Automated Naming)



Morrigan- What is the student benefit of standardized testing? Can be used for goal setting. Can also be used to help students learn where they are and where they want to go. However, it can be a challenge. None of them are used to determine student grades or student value.

Sarah Blake- how much time are students spending taking tests? It depends. E.g. At least 2 days for subject for SBAC.

Sarah Cofer- District has done a good job of reducing the amount of time taken on tests

#### **District/School Informational Update**

Dr. Sweeting provided the following updates to the committee:

- County/District health status update

#### **June ACE Meeting**

Due to a conflict on Monday, June 6, the June ACE meeting is being moved to Tuesday, June 7 at 6 p.m.

#### **Adjournment**

Sarah Cofer made a motion, seconded by Erika Coghill, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.