

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.

Monday, Oct. 2, 2017
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Call to order

Mary Levesque called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

Members Present

Maggie Bagwell, Arianne Blackburn, Sarah Blake, Kathy Ehman, Jen Fuller, Cindy Glunt, Natalie Hollifield, Sheri Kelly, Mary Levesque, Gary Sabol, Chrys Sweeting

Members Absent

Ryan Barci, Linda Bollinger, Lisa Coghill, Yvonne Gallardo, Pedro Gonzales, Jillian Gooding, Kimberly Meno, Casey Miller, Hanna Novy, Matt Washburn

Guest Present

Kari Henderson-Burke

Approve minutes

Kathy Ehman made a motion to approve the Sept. 18 minutes. Sheri Kelly seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.

District Updates

Dr. Sweeting provided the following updates:

- Every family received a copy of the wall calendar/family handbook.
- The district continues to monitor enrollment at the schools. Due to an increase, some teachers were added in various classrooms.
- The district and most schools participated in an evacuation and reunification drill across the district.
- Arlington High School is hosting a lip dub video instead of a parade this year.

Smarter Balanced Assessment Results

Kari Henderson-Burke provided an update on assessment results across the district from spring 2015 to spring 2017. Some highlights include:

- Third-grade English Language Arts (ELA) results districtwide were up to 62.9 percent vs. 58.5 percent in 2016. This is also above the statewide average. Fourth-grade ELA results were also up nearly two percentage points districtwide over the previous year.
- Fourth-grade math assessments districtwide were slightly up over last year's results.
- The 10th-grade End of Course Biology exam results were up to 79.5 percent districtwide vs. 78.1 percent the previous year. The statewide average is 71.5 percent.
- Eleventh-grade ELA and math results districtwide were slightly up versus the previous year's results.

Ms. Henderson-Burke shared that the district is already: working with student with adverse childhood conditions and utilizing trauma-informed practices; emphasizing attendance to keep kids in school; building relationships; and keeping calm and staying rigorous.

This year there will be a focus on math, implementing the new ELA materials, renovating our Guaranteed Viable Curriculum and focusing more on ELL, Special Education and students of poverty.

Arianne Blackburn shared that high school students need help with math. She took the test last year as a sophomore. There are certain things that you're not actually prepared for. There were some parts that she didn't know how to complete. She said there are some instructional gaps that can be filled. Ms. Henderson-Burke would like to talk with her to get more insight from her. It's a very rigorous test.

Sheri Kelly said her daughter took the EOC exam and thought it was easier than she thought. She said when her daughter took the math exam, there were items that she didn't know. There was a definitely a gap in the learning.

Testing results- where do we see ourselves? There should be multiple measures of success. iReady-benchmark assessment, look at student data, GVC curriculum, common formative assessments, catch kids early, look at where kids are at, catching them early, learning targets. Teachers have an instructional framework which guides instruction.

ESHB 2224

Ms. Henderson-Burke provided the following update on ESHB 2224:

- High school ELA and Math will be administered in 10th-grade for federal accountability.
- Smarter Balanced Assessments for high school ELA and Math will be realigned for 10th-grade.
- 5th, 8th and 11th grade students will take the new Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science (WCAS) for federal accountability (this replaces MSP and EOC Biology).
- Students will have additional pathways to demonstrate proficiency if they do not meet standard on the high school exams.

Equity Activity

Dr. Sweeting conducted an equity activity with the group. She asked, "What does educational equity mean to you?" The groups shared their definitions.

Access to appropriately challenging work and resources for each student according to his or her needs.

- Challenge you where you are at
- Resources- multitude of people to support you.

Equity is removing barriers to give students equal access to opportunities for educational growth including but not limited to technology, music, arts/drama, athletics, academics, language, basic needs and much, much more.

Cindy Glunt indicated that she has testing anxiety. How can teachers take that anxiety into account? Testing is not timed anymore which helps with the anxiety. Schools are trying more and more to accommodate how students learn.

Are there other tools to remove barriers? Year-round school, summer school-buses were available, summer school buses not communicated as much as it could have been.

As Arlington grows, is there a no cut sports team? You don't want them to get discouraged if they keep getting cut. Maybe offer more clubs?

Sheri Kelly made a motion to adjourn and Maggie Bagwell seconded the motion. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, Nov. 6 at 6 p.m.