

Curriculum Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: May 1, 2017 @5:00 p.m. – SSC

Members:

Attendance

Annette Johnson	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Kimberly Hatchett	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Kristin Strand	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Dr. Marion Hoyda	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Dr. Mark McDonald	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Heather Kincaid	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Dr. Carla Johnson	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Suzanne Bement	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Jennifer Dalrymple	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Diane Argueta	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Araceli Ordaz	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Dr. Yolanda Stovall	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Brenda Analy Gonzalez	Yes	<u> x </u>	No
Jeremy Bell	Yes	<u> x </u>	No

Ms. Kincaid opened the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

I. Dual Language Update

Two dual language teachers have been hired from within the district, Ms. Sarah Swanson and Ms. Marisol Calderon.

During the recent kindergarten registration, 43 English-speaking parents chose dual language as a first choice for their child, while 47 Spanish-speaking parents chose it. The next step will be to hold a lottery to choose the 24 student participants. For the Spanish-speaking students, only those who have qualified for bilingual services will be eligible. The total number of students in the pilot will be 48; 24 Spanish speakers and 24 English speakers. The remaining students will be placed on a wait list. May 12th is the goal date to identify all student participants.

II. East Aurora Extension Campus

Dr. Stovall presented information regarding the programs currently housed at the Extension Campus, those anticipated to be housed there for 2017-2018, additional types of alternative education programs needed, and what a partnership might look like.

At the high school, there is EAchieve, a program for expectant and new mothers, and a night school program. Ms. Hatchett asked what alternative means; Dr. Stovall said it is an alternative to the regular school setting.

Dr. McDonald said, generally speaking, alternative education is for those students who have emotional or social difficulty, have had disciplinary action, or are years behind academically. Dr. Stovall added that students who are in some special education programs should also be included, as well as students who have attendance/truancy issues. For example, the child care program enables teen parents to continue attending school. Ms. Johnson asked about the difference between the child care program at the high school vs. the one at the Extension Campus; Dr. Stovall explained they are funded differently and have different arrival and leave times. Each serve a different type of student – at the high school, students attend regular classes and are engaged in the normal school environment; at the Extension Campus, it's designed to start a bit later so students can take their children to the doctor, for example.

Dr. Stovall said three programs are currently housed at the Extension Campus: the RSSP (Regional Safe Schools Program); the TAOEP (Truants Alternative and Optional Education Program); and the DREAMSS program. RSSP serves students in grades 6-12 (In lieu of expulsion) for a varying term of one semester to up to two years; TAOEP serves students with attendance issues and/or dropouts (up to and including those who are 21 years of age) and provides truancy prevention and intervention services and/or optional education for a varying term of one semester to one year; DREAMSS consists of middle and high school special education students identified as needing social and emotional support and the length of placement is determined by the student's IEP.

TAOEP serves students in their last trimester of pregnancy and those who have newborns. Young men who have newborns and who need an adjusted schedule can participate as well. It's blended learning and includes a personal development and parenting class component.

Dr. Stovall explained that because the TAOEP program can serve a population with a broader range of concerns, including truancy/attendance issues, the district is looking to move it to the high school for the 2017-2018 school year, removing the child care component since it would then be able to be combined with the existing high school child care program with the goal of serving more students at the main high school campus. RSSP and DREAMSS would remain at the Extension Campus.

Dr. Stovall said current need suggests proposing three new middle school programs and one new high school program. At the middle school level, the first program, SEL (Social Emotional Learning), would have the goal of improving students' academic achievement and social emotional needs through an intensive program with a low student-to-teacher ratio.

The second middle school program would be SEL-Discipline, which would have the same goal as the SEL program but would serve students who have multiple office discipline referrals (ODRs) that don't warrant expulsion. Both proposed programs would serve eight students from each middle school for a total of 24 students.

Ms. Johnson asked if the total number of students being proposed to be served is low. She's heard there are a small number of students at the middle schools who are a consistent problem. Dr. Stovall explained that would love to serve as many students as need it but haven't yet discussed how these programs will be funded. The programs currently being proposed is simply a wish list.

The third proposed middle school program, Retention Recovery, would provide supports for students at least one grade behind to work towards recovering grade level status. It would serve 10 students from each middle school for a total of 30 students.

Ms. Hatchett confirmed that a student one grade level behind would have to go to an alternative campus; Ms. Stovall said that's not the case currently but is what's being proposed so that a student can catch up before he/she gets too far behind. The idea is not to be punitive; instead it's an intervention. Ms. Hatchett wondered how a parent would feel about this; Ms. Stovall explained that she previously worked in a high school with a similar program and it helped with the students' social/emotional needs.

Dr. Stovall discussed a high school Retention Recovery program similar to the one proposed for middle school with a goal of providing supports for students who are at least one grade behind to work towards recovering grade level status. Would like to serve 30 students.

Ms. Johnson asked how many 16- and 17-year-old high school students there are with 0 credit hours; Dr. Stovall stated she doesn't have that number currently but can definitely get it.

Ms. Hatchett wondered if the Retention Recovery programs would be better suited for students two years behind since they could theoretically recover from being one year behind. Dr. Stovall said could definitely have more discussion around that and look at the numbers; however, having a student behind in 8th grade then entering high school is a big deal with the potential to get even further behind.

Ms. Johnson asked for more statistics regarding 14- and 15-year-old middle school students and 16- and 17-year-old high school students with 0 credit hours. Ms. Hatchett agreed that those are the students

who seem to need an alternative program. Ms. Stovall said she made a note to check those numbers and get back to committee.

Dr. Stovall presented current program costs at EAEC as follows:

Rent	\$368,000
Utilities/Maintenance	\$50,000
Staffing	\$1,148,981
Total Cost	\$1,566,981
Grant funds	\$143,289
TOTAL DISTRICT COST	\$1,423,692

Dr. Stovall explained that it's difficult to say how a partnership would affect the budget without seeing what a partnership would have to offer. Other variables include space, number of programs, staffing, and material supplies. Dr. McDonald asked if a different partnership than the Urban League is something Ms. Stovall wants the committee to consider; current programs are using Urban League's facilities. Is a different partnership a viable option? Might grant money be an option to cover some of the proposed programs? Ms. Stovall said would have to research to see if there are grants to meet district needs but wouldn't have time to put in place for 2017-2018 school year.

Ms. Johnson asked about four new classrooms at the high school; Ms. Bement said they're not for DREAMSS. They are specifically designed for life skills, transition, and structured learning students as required by the IDEA grant that funded them.

Ms. Hatchett asked the capacity of the Extension Campus; answer is 120 students. Current plans call for RSSP and DREAMSS to be housed there for a total of 54 students.

Ms. Strand said committee needs more data before can discuss and decide how to proceed. Ms. Hatchett pointed out Dr. Stovall's proposal includes nine new teachers. Dr. Stovall said other items such as materials would be needed as well. Dr. Stovall summarized that the committee needs more information about what both middle and high school alternative students would look like, age- and discipline-wise, and how far behind they are. Ms. Hatchett would then like a rough budget based on new information. Dr. McDonald reminded the committee that a lot of work remains to be done in a short period of time at the Extension Campus even without any new programs.

Ms. Hatchett would like an administration recommendation next month on how to move forward; Dr. Stovall agreed.

III. Student Mentoring Programs

Ms. Araceli Ordaz and Dr. Stovall presented information on mentoring programs at various buildings which include those originating within the district and others lead by outside organizations, as well as student eligibility requirements and the number of students being served. Ms. Ordaz noted that any volunteers are fingerprinted and background checked to ensure they are able to work with students. Brady has more mentoring programs due to its location near many churches and Principal De los Santos' relationship with community organizations.

Ms. Ordaz stated district is now auditing programs to monitor effectiveness; for example, Kids Hope USA at Johnson may be expanded to see if it's viable at other schools.

Ms. Hatchett noted that the only program consistent among all the schools is 21st Century.

Listed programs were all established before the current directors came on board; Ms. Ordaz noted that going forward, administration will be more involved in establishing mentoring relationships with outside organizations to ensure they're being vetted and to make sure they're effective in meeting parents' and students' needs.

Ms. Strand stated that as someone involved with an organization partnering with the schools, up to this point there hasn't been a liaison and it's been much easier to work directly with the school and the principal. To have more structure for community partnerships will be great.

IV. New Business

June curriculum committee meeting will cover the following:

- a) Preschool construction update
- b) Assessment & graduation update
- c) Technology update for 1:1 in elementary
- d) Extension Campus update
- e) Field trip update

V. Public Comments

None.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.