APPROVED

Cirrus Education Group

Minutes

CEG - Academic Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Monday November 17, 2025 at 2:00 PM

Location
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86073091126?pwd=q0SvajFBfwXEMDnFrWn8jUsDTSbnyN.1

Committee Members Present
L. Golphin (remote), L. Taylor (remote), R. Finley (remote)

Committee Members Absent
S. Kelly, T. Olagunju

Guests Present
Alison Bass (remote), Arleen Samuels (remote), B. Williams, Brenda Edwards (remote), C. Blake, Diane Freeman, Joanne Binns, Nisah Brinson, Nyla Thornton, Sonja Riley (remote), Wendy Grimes (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

R. Finley called a meeting of the Academic Committee of Cirrus Education Group to order on Monday Nov 17, 2025 at 2:07 PM.

B. Record Attendance

C.

Approve Agenda

L. Taylor made a motion to Approve Agenda.
L. Golphin seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Approve Minutes from October 16, 2025

L. Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes from CEG - Academic Committee Meeting on 10-16-25.
L. Golphin seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Academic

A. Data & Assessments

B. Curriculum & Insturction

Nisah Brinson presented a multi-layered reading improvement strategy scheduled to launch in January. This plan includes twice-weekly after-school reading sessions, bi-monthly teacher workshops, enhanced vocabulary and close-reading routines, and writing practice in middle school. Staff shared that the state provided specific guidelines for the literacy funding, and a summary will be prepared for the Board.
Dr. Thornton presented additional literacy culture initiatives, including Reading Buddy Fridays, Mystery Readers, Reader Hallway Takeovers, and a Flashlight Reading Event. The team noted the need to compile a resource list to support the literacy plan and consider donation opportunities if needed.
The conversation also touched on the upcoming DRC Beacon assessments, weekly “show-what-you-know” checks beginning in January, MTSS implementation, and cursive writing integration. Family engagement strategies were discussed, with the team moving toward a hybrid model of reading workshops that incorporates both in-person and virtual sessions to broaden access. The committee explored community partnerships and ideas like theater-based reading activities to deepen engagement.
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toward a hybrid model of reading workshops that incorporates both in-person and virtual sessions to broaden access. The committee explored community partnerships and ideas like theater-based reading activities to deepen engagement.

C. Culture

Brenda Edwards highlighted a 25% month-over-month reduction in discipline referrals, decreasing from 96 in September to 72 in October, with the highest volume originating from middle school. The sensory room, opened mid-October, has been used by six students to date. Staff have requested additional sensory resources such as manipulatives, calming items, and emotional-regulation tools, though these requests are currently pending approval. Chair Finley asked for detailed data on sensory room usage to support future funding conversations.
Behavior concerns in 6th grade were discussed, along with teacher fatigue and classroom management supports. The committee also reviewed recent professional development focused on behavior systems and the ongoing rollout of MTSS.

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

L. Taylor made a motion to Adjourn Meeting.
L. Golphin seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.
There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
C. Blake