



Veritas Preparatory Charter School

Minutes

Academic Achievement Committee Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday March 9, 2023 at 8:00 AM

Location

Join Zoom Meeting <https://vpcs-org.zoom.us/j/3161659740>

Committee Members Present

A. Clark (remote), A. Errichetti (remote), D. Janes (remote), R. Sela (remote)

Committee Members Absent

L. Doherty, R. Romano

Guests Present

J. Swan (remote), N. Gauthier (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

A. Clark called a meeting of the Academic Achievement Committee of Veritas Preparatory Charter School to order on Thursday Mar 9, 2023 at 8:04 AM.

C.

Approve Minutes

A. Errichetti made a motion to approve the minutes from Academic Achievement Committee Meeting on 02-09-23.

R. Sela seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic Achievement

A. Accountability Plan Progress Update

Amy put together an accountability plan dashboard and shared it with the committee.

In terms of PowerSchool, we are trying to fix the scale that determines grades and the issue should be resolved by report card conferences at the end of the month.

Ann asks about attendance at report card conferences?

Amy says we generally get decent attendance at both schools.

Accountability Goal Progress Update:

Goal #1 - 70% of scholars in grades 5-10 will earn a C- or higher in Reading and Math by the end of the school year.

Meeting - in every area except for 6th grade math.

Goal #2: By 2025, 25% or fewer students will need a decoding or fluency intervention when entering 9th grade.

Not meeting - Amy explains that we are going to change our special education team around next year and hire a reading interventionist who will focus in on 5th grade. If we can get most kids in 5th grade as proficient readers, it makes 6-8th much easier. The intervention we use right now is scripted so anyone can pick it up and do it but when you practice often, you can implement it with more fidelity.

Goal #3: By graduation, 85% of students will earn 12 or more college credits.

N/A - we are not at this point with our HS program yet. 50% of our students are currently taking college courses. To earn 12 credits, you do not need to begin in 9th grade, so we can still make this goal. Amy wonders about how we will be able to disaggregate this data.

Jonathan suggests "on track to earn credit".

Ann suggests another column "percent completed".

Two Columns: "Enrolled" and "On Track".

Follow Up: Amy will talk to the committee about what college courses are we offering next year at the April meeting.

Goal #4: Annually, on a student survey, 85% of high school students will agree or strongly agree with the following statements that align with the VPHS portrait of a graduate.

Not meeting - Amy shared survey results in relation to our habits of success. Many of these habits we are planning to begin working on earlier in the middle school so when they come to high school, they will already possess these skills.

We administer the survey twice a year. We administered it about a week ago and we will again at the end of the year.

Jonathan asks if the teachers have seen this survey data yet?

Amy says not yet but they will. The committee discusses the possible interpretations of the word "feedback" and how that may come across to our scholars.

Goal #5: In grades 9 & 10, the average for habits of success will be at least a 2.5 in each grade.

Not meeting - Amy split this up by subject but not by subgroup - this is something we will have to fix. We are close to meeting this. In history, scholars are showing the strongest habits (maybe because the teacher is the hardest grader when it comes to habits). Individual teachers grade habits more or less strictly and this can effect the results of this goal.

Goal #6: 70% of students will earn the incentive each week.

Not meeting - this is the most surprising goal that we are not meeting. We might have to re-consider how we determine the progress toward meeting this goal. Here we looked only at Rockstar Monday but there are other incentives our students are earning - we need to consider those as well. Leadership will look at this.

Follow up: Amy will talk to Rachel about this.

Goal #7: At least 85% of instructional staff will agree...

Professional development at their school demonstrates a commitment to improving practice.

They receive feedback from classroom observation that supports their professional growth.

Partially meeting - Midyear survey has not officially gone out yet. We will ask these specific questions on that survey. The most recent weekly survey did ask similar questions. We are getting positive responses from those.

Goal #8: Fewer than 20.5% of students will be chronically absent.

Meeting - This an accountability measure that we will be held to. We are tracking 17% that are chronically absent. Right now that is because 10% of the school year (which qualifies a student as being chronically absent), is about 10 days missed. As 10% of the school year increases the amount of days a student will have had to miss, that 17% will decrease.

B. Planning for Future Meetings

Follow up: Update on accountability goal progress

April: ANet, College classes we plan to offer next year

Dale suggests an update on academics for 5th grade. (In comparison to pre-pandemic)

The committee discusses the return to in person meetings in April.

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Sela

Documents used during the meeting

- Veritas Accountability Dashboard March.xlsx