MCCPS Board of Trustees

Minutes

Academic Excellence Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday June 3, 2020 at 8:30 AM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82913159414?pwd=OXcyUlpIeVQxKzd3cGF2dTNhTXpodz09

Committee Members Present
Ellen Lodgen (remote), Jessica Xiarhos (remote), Kimberly Sullivan (remote), Matt Cronin (remote), Peter Cohen (remote)

Committee Members Absent
Emily Westhoven, Michael Condon

Guests Present
Molly Wright (remote), Sarah Plymate Ragozin (remote)

I. Opening Items

  A. **Record Attendance and Guests**

  B. **Call the Meeting to Order**

      Jessica Xiarhos called a meeting of the Academic Excellence Committee Committee of MCCPS Board of Trustees to order on Wednesday Jun 3, 2020 at 8:02 AM.

  C.

Accept Remote Participation

Jessica Xiarhos made a motion to In light of the ongoing COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak, Governor Baker issued an emergency Order on March 12, 2020, allowing public bodies greater flexibility in utilizing technology in the conduct of meetings under the Open Meeting Law. This committee makes a motion to accept this Executive Order for this meeting of the Academic Excellence Committee, on June 3, 2020.
Ellen Lodgen seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Sarah Plymate Ragozin	Absent
Ellen Lodgen	Aye
Michael Condon	Absent
Peter Cohen	Aye
Matt Cronin	Aye
Emily Westhoven	Absent
Kimberly Sullivan	Aye
Jessica Xiarhos	Aye

D. Approve Minutes from 5/6/20

Ellen Lodgen made a motion to approve the minutes from May 6. Academic Excellence Committee Meeting on 05-06-20.
Matt Cronin seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Peter Cohen	Aye
Ellen Lodgen	Aye
Michael Condon	Absent
Kimberly Sullivan	Abstain
Sarah Plymate Ragozin	Aye
Matt Cronin	Aye
Emily Westhoven	Absent
Jessica Xiarhos	Aye

II. Academic Excellence Committee

A. Role of Academic Excellence Committee in Distance Learning

B. Review of Draft Math Department "Criteria for Excellence"

Academic Reopening Commission - several scenarios playing out.

How do we train staff to do some form of remote learning?

- We need a more unified front from grade levels
    - alignment necessary for some sort of cohesiveness

State-wide there is a reopening commission

- fear of decision making being turned over to district level
- Pressure on commissioner to have 100% attendance in order to send working parents back to work
- Hybrid model disruptive and complicated
- Providing educational services to those who don't choose to return to school
- Lynn schools thinking about only bring elementary students back in - upper schools/high school more successful online, elementary students spread out amongst classrooms
- Staggered start times

How do we replicate what we do in a remote setting?

- Is this the responsibility of our committee or the Academic reopening commission?
- Narrowing the focus... concrete questions we would like to explore
    - Community is an aspect. Different strategies to do that.
    - Academics - PBL -
        - Criteria for success for math - are we in a position to share this out to the community? - a way to focus us for the fall
        - A "backbone" for the curriculum will help guide thinking and provide a framework
- Push to finish ELA Criteria for Success as something to guide
- State identifying power standards - curriculum frameworks to comprehensive

Layers to Criteria for Success

- PD for Staff
- Redesigning curriculum based on criteria
- Then again reworking for remote learning
- Taking different learners into account
- What is our priority?
- Alignment between criteria and what has been being done remotely
- Discourse missing - hallmark of what we do.

Any tweaking or adjusting to the criteria through the lens of in-person learning - not designed for this scenario - potentially uncover weaknesses

Considering synchronous classes in the fall - Live Streaming Lessons

- At the college level (Northeastern) live streaming lectures - not necessarily a good fit for our model
- Week on, week off - students at home would work on remote learning assignments
  - 90 days of education vs. 180
- Staffing at lower levels - lessons look different in lower school
  - classroom management on Zoom - standards of behavior - guidelines for parents - Zoom behavior etiquette
  - 4th vs. 8th grade definitely look different

Creating expectations of students, teachers, and parents

- Rethinking the start of school - time spent of systems, technology learning, getting to know the students
- First day on the field, gym per grade level to make face-to-face connection
- Strong communication between current teachers and future teachers
- How has the parent seen their child through distance learning?
- Small groups for parents and student to come in and meet with new teacher

C. Next Steps

For Meeting on W, June 10 @ 8:00 - Review ELA and Math Criteria for Excellence; begin thinking about how we can incorporate these documents to help frame remote learning curriculum.

Meeting on first Wednesday of July, 07/01/2020

D. Project Based Learning

III. Closing Items

A. Action Items

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Xiarhos

Documents used during the meeting

- 2020_05_06_academic_excellence_committee_committee_meeting_minutes-2.pdf