Manitowoc Public School District Minutes of Curriculum Committee Meeting

February 18, 2022

Curriculum Committee Chairperson, Meredith Sauer, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Curriculum Committee Members Kathy Willis and Stacy Soeldner were present along with Superintendent Mark Holzman and Board of Education member Lisa Johnston. In addition, Jason Bull, Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment, Pam Lensmire, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Jennifer Schultz, K-12 Literacy Specialist, were also present.

K - 12 Literacy Update

Jennifer Schultz, K-12 Literacy Specialist, and Pam Lensmire provided an update on the literacy work occurring within the district this year and shared survey data from K-5 classroom teachers, 6-8 ELA teachers, K-8 specialists, and K-8 principals related to our current Units of Study ELA curriculum resource. The survey results reveal that the biggest gap across all respondent groups between what our staff believe is important in an effective literacy resource and what our current resource provides is inadequate differentiation materials, particularly for EL and special education students. Additionally, lack of word study is perceived as a significant gap by grades 3-5 classroom teachers. Pam Lensmire explained that the Student Learning Office will be working through an ELA resource review and potential adoption process as a result of the feedback from staff.

Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) Semester 1 Reports

Pam Lensmire shared the required end-of-semester 1 informational reports for Franklin and Jefferson Elementary Schools, the two AGR schools in our district. Both schools captured baseline reading and math achievement data on students in grades K-3 in September 2021. Using this data, they set performance objectives for growth over the course of the year. The end-of-semester 1 reports provide updates on students' progress towards achieving the established objectives.

Franklin Elementary School has been monitoring the progress of all students and, in particular, of those who performed below proficiency at the start of the year. The staff have been tracking data on students' progress over the course of the semester and have used the data to group students and plan for instruction and intervention. Additionally, the staff have been exploring strategies for incorporating academic vocabulary into lessons during staff meeting professional development opportunities.

Jefferson Elenentary School has been monitoring the progress of all students on individual math standards and literacy benchmarks. The staff have been tracking data on students' progress over the course of the semester and have used the data to group students and plan for instruction and intervention. Additionally, the staff have been engaged in professional development opportunities focused around clarity in learning targets and incorporating mathematical language into lessons during staff meetings. As an extension of this, staff have been conducting peer observations around clarity in learning targets and have been providing one another with colleague to colleague feedback.

Student and Parent Engagement Surveys

Jason Bull shared an overview of the data contained within the student and parent engagement survey results presentations shared with the committee. He explained that 2, 292 students in grades 4-11 completed the student engagement survey and 743 parents completed the parent engagement survey. The committee members are asked to review the presentations and provide the Student Learning Office with any questions they have related to the data prior to the March Curriculum Committee meeting when a discussion of the information contained within the presentations will be brought back to the agenda.

Stacy Soeldner made a motion to adjourn the Curriculum Committee; Kathy Willis seconded the motion. The Curriculum Committee meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.