



AMESBURY

CITY HALL
62 Friend Street
Amesbury, MA 01913

AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
TEACHING AND LEARNING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Bank Room, Amesbury High School
September 7, 2021 at 5pm

Present were Maryann Welch (Chair), Peter Hoyt, Abigail Jurist Levy, Lyn Jacques, the Director of Teaching and Learning and the Acting Superintendent Elizabeth McAndrews.

Ms. Welch called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm.

Approve minutes from June 21, 2021 meeting

Mr. Hoyt moved to approve the minutes, second by Dr. Jurist Levy. Approved by unanimous consent.

Teaching and Learning Updates

- Final information on summer school
 - AIHS had 12 students and 2 teachers for 4 weeks, 4 hours a day, 4 days a week. Credit recovery attendance was great, except for one student.
 - AHS had 15 students earning elective credits and 49 students recovering credits.
 - K-8 had 95 students selected plus 5 additional students who showed-up and were invited to stay. They focused on Focus Skill mastery for 3 weeks, 3 hrs. a week. One hour on math, one hour on ELA, and one hour on SEL.
 - 50% of the students were on IEPS. The district will compare last spring's MAP data to this fall's scores to see if summer school met student needs. The district will perform a per pupil cost analysis to determine if the cost was appropriate and if the program should extend to next year.
- New Teacher Induction Program: Amy Mitchell and Carol Bartlett led this effort. They started with a three-day training and all new teachers were given mentors and mentoring logs. "New to teaching" staff will meet monthly and "new to district" staff will be offered regular workshops. If a new teacher is hired after October, they will be bumped to next year's teacher induction program.
- Beginning of the school year professional development: The PD was building-based but each school reviewed discipline due to the tiered focus review finding. Lyn Jacques presented on implicit bias and will require staff to review their materials so the district can send in a report to the state on Oct. 1. The Superintendent presented on evaluations, Daniel led the required yearly topics, and Pettengill House presented on stress in the classroom.
- Brief overview of first days of school: Went pretty well except for a few transportation bumps due to the newly bought-out transportation company. Leadership performed their first "Learning Walk" at AHS. Their focus was to observe safe and supportive learning environments. Five groups rotated through 3 classrooms (one experienced teacher's class, one moderately experienced teacher's class, one new teacher's class). The school staff will receive a summary of their observations and leadership will use the district consultant's rubric to monitor and calibrate their observations in the future.

- **Next steps of dyslexia screening**
 - Ms. Jacques upcoming meeting with Dr. Catarius and Ms. Cole has been rescheduled to Sept. 10th (Topics: dyslexia, mapping MTSS, and MAP testing)
 - Timeline for intervention plan (what students will be targeted, rationale/data) and funding needs (PD, staffing, resources): Has not be determined

- **Results from the DEI Committee**
 - Lyn Jacques presented the subcommittee with copies of the Equity and Inclusion Analysis draft. The anticipated presentation of the DEI results has been pushed back until October due to the need to build more data. Michael Eatman is the district's DEI consultant and will help them answer, "How do you turn this data into something meaningful?". During the district's envisioning meeting they will identify four priority areas and may build an action plan for one priority.

- **Grants/ESSER**
 - A survey will be going out to collect stakeholder views on uses for future ESSER funds.
 - For ESSER effectiveness updates, the district will provide survey data from summer school, and presentations from the math and reading interventionists.

- **Spotlight reviews**
 - *Mr. Hoyt moved to approve Amy Mitchell and Carol to receive a Spotlight for the New Teacher Induction Program, seconded by Dr. Jurist Levy. Approved by unanimous consent.*
 - *Dr. Jurist Levy moved to approve the DEI Committee's recommendation for a Spotlight, seconded by Mr. Hoyt. Approved by unanimous consent.*

- **Other**
 - MAP concern: The district currently has limited technology support. There is a director, someone that inputs state data, a new employee, an employee going on leave, and an employee that just resigned. The district needs more manpower to prepare for MAP testing and has been seeking outside consulting to fill the current gap.

Dr. Jurist Levy moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hoyt. Approved by unanimous consent.

Anticipated Next Meeting: Oct. 18, 2021 at 6pm