

SIT Minutes Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Members present: Ciano, Wortha, Broecker, K. Mullis, Traywick, Plyler, Robbins, Norman, Lanzy for Moretz, Mrs. Stegall, Bell, McAll for Ginger,

Call to order—2:30 p.m.

Minute Approval: No meeting in February due to snow days and January minutes were already approved.

Comments/Concerns from Various Staff Members:

* Kids are walking into the Green Room to get items off of copier, classes walking through Green Room—please remind teams to not allow students in Green Room.

*If we are a school of choice do we have to allow students who are continuous behavior problem, absences, and/or tardies?

* Students can be sent from BHESA back to their home school for a pattern of behaviors and other chronic infractions.

A+ Concerns, Thoughts, and Suggestions:

- What is the degree of A+ at BHESA?
- Could there be a voluntary A+ Committee (made up of various grade levels) to meet regularly to discuss A+ related ideas/curriculum at BHESA?
- As a school of choice, a school of the Arts, it would be beneficial to advertise what makes us a school of the Arts. Possibly showing an A+ video while parents are registering for Kindergarten?
 - As per Traywick's conversation with Dr. Ellis and Mr. Jackson, we cannot advertise when we do not have spaces available to fill. However, a brochure of sort can be created to share with anyone/everyone letting know what BHESA is about.
 - Can we add a survey to the registration to assess if parents are aware of what type of school we are?—**Yes and also have them sign off knowing that all UCPS rules and regulations must be followed or their enrollment at BHESA can be rescinded as mentioned on the annual intent letters.**
- At BHESA we have the opportunity to retrain staff on what it means to be an A+ school; however can we educate the director of elementary education, superintendent, etc. on the vision of BHESA being an A+ school as a means to give leniency as to what the expectations are for all elementary schools? **Yes. In addition, required A+ training for the entire staff will be held on Monday, July 28th-July 29th in Charlotte—more information to come.**
- Can dance and drama be added to the report cards, primarily K-2 since they have already added to 3-5? **We will check and rumor is next year that K-2 will be going to a PowerSchool generated report card too. So, if it was added to 3-5, then...**
- Add an Essentials Inventory/Card to the report card, as a means to help Essentials teachers to know of specific strengths (and/or weaknesses) in each of the specific Arts area.
- More Essentials planning time with the grade level teams: A way to go this would be to go back to a 6 day rotation, the 7th slot (Class) **could** be used for Guidance or Media Center as a class for the 7th block. (There is awareness that coverage might be needed.)—**Will have to see. All depends on funding and schedule.**
- During formal observations, could there be an expectation added to standard 4 (?) in which an Arts Integrated component should be/needs to be seen in the observed lesson. **Probably not as that is a state evaluation, but will inquire.**

- How do we find a balance between the rigor of CCSS and A+ ideas/expectations? How to go about really implementing A+ into the classroom on a regular basis? When do I add it into the day? How do I go about adding it into the day? **Training is so important--A+ is not an add-on, it is truly a delivery model and integration piece.**
- Could there be a school community of classroom teachers, curriculum staff, Administration, essentials team, in which there is open, honest discussion in which we are talking to each other and not at each other. (As a means to boost morale.)—**YES! This is vital to a culture of a school; however individuals have to think globally, see the whole picture, and be reflective.**
- The Essentials team has noticed that over a span of year there has been a difference in behavior, morale, and respect that our students show throughout the school. Maybe there's confusion over PBIS, as to how it's been implementing. (Clipboards need to be brought to Essentials. Is the clipboard being used correctly in the classroom or is it just being brought to Essentials to appease the teachers? Lack of the (old) STAR Card, it was seen by parents on a nightly or weekly basis.

Request from EC Staff:

- Are there subscriptions for the “Extra” portion of the website, “Starfall”, a free website that can be used for literacy and math that has an extra part that is a paid subscription? Cecilia will ask that staff member to look into that price and then it will be run by administration again.—**YES—purchased.**

SIP Revision:

- Look over the SIP plan with your team looking for areas that need to be revised or areas of recommendations/changes to be made to the SIP. Get this information back to Mrs. Traywick by 3/28!

Other Comments/Concerns:

- 4th Grade—does 4th grade need to do the Black History performance every year. Why does 4th grade do it if it doesn't align with their curriculum? Can this be changed for next year? **YES.**
- Mud puddle on the playground is still an issue. Work order and BMF entered.
- April 21st County Commission Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Blaire needs representatives to speak at this meeting.
- 5th Grade: Morning Time: 7:00-7:30 Students not getting to class on time after breakfast. Suggestion: Reminding students to go directly to class and to remind teachers on duty to not have lengthy conversations with students.
- **Dress Code Issues:**
 - Coats/jackets/sweaters that do not meet dress code need to only be worn outside unless heat is broken in the classroom.
 - Good News Club shirts cannot be worn during the school day but students can wear them after school. (Students will keep it in their backpacks until the end of the day and may put it on at the 2:00 bell. They are not to wear them underneath their uniform shirts).
 - If there is a financial issue in terms of purchasing clothing talk to Mrs. Hill or Ms. Finney.

Next SIT Meeting: April 23rd

Items to Bring Back to Teams:

- Teacher Working Conditions Survey: Stress the importance of filling this out. Mrs. Traywick would like 100% participation.

- Look over the SIP plan with your team looking for areas that need to be revised or areas of recommendations/changes to be made to the SIP. Get this information back to Mrs. Traywick by 3/28! (This can be done during your team's PLC time.)

Meeting Adjourned: 3:38