THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST
SCHOOL DISTRICT 67
EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES – FEBRUARY 2021

Title:	Education Committee Meeting
Date:	Thursday, February 11, 2021
Time:	12:00 PM
Location:	Virtual Meeting
Committee Members Present:	Richard Chun, Julie Eglite, Rob Lemke, Suzanne Sands, Umang Singh,
Administration Present:	Mike Simeck, Rebecca Jenkins, Jeff McHugh, Renée Fitzsimmons, Kate Cavanaugh
Staff Present:	Denise Galatsianos, Rebecca Saxena, Stacey Weber
Approval of Minutes:	Motion by Rob Lemke, Seconded by Umang Singh
Public Comment:	There were no public comments.

DISCUSSIONS/PRESENTATIONS:

SAEBRS Follow-Up – Stacey Weber
Social, **A**cademic, and **E**motional **B**ehavior **R**isk **S**creener

Kate Cavanaugh, Executive Director of Student Services, invited Stacey Weber, District Behavior Coach, to help provide the committee with a follow-up with regard to the data collected this winter using SAEBRS, the Social Emotional Learning screener being implemented for the first time this year.

After explaining how the SAEBRS scoring works and sharing information about the three subscales (social, academic and emotional behavior), Ms. Weber shared that when 80% or more of students score in the no risk range it indicates a healthy system. She then went on to share the data gathered in District 67. Overall, 93.4% of students scored in the no-risk range and only 6.6% scored in the range that would indicate a possible need for Tier 2 or Tier 3 support. When looking at the overall subscale results 91.9% of students score in the no risk range in the social rating, 88.2% score in the no-risk range in the academic rating and 85.7% score in the no-risk range in the emotional rating. When the data is broken down by age 91.6% of K-4 students score in the no-risk range while 88% of 5-8 students score in the no-risk range. Ms. Weber shared additional breakdowns and levels of detail with the committee. She explained that this data had all been shared with the building leadership who then shared it with their staff to guide reflective discussions and planning. This data will serve as a benchmark going forward. It will be triangulated against other sources of data to make decisions about social, emotional and behavioral outcomes at the district, building and grade levels. It is also used as a tool for identifying possible individual needs for further support.

The committee had the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback to the team.

Summer School – Rebecca Jenkins

Next up Rebecca Jenkins, Deputy Superintendent, shared information about how the District is planning for summer school. She started by sharing that they have been conducting a summer school survey to gauge parent interest and over 200 families have already expressed interest. This year they are looking to combine Extended School Year learning opportunities with Brainstormers to offer a D67 Summer School. The current plan is to offer an in-person program which provides numerous learning opportunities that are designed to bridge any gaps that may exist as a result of the disruptions to learning due to the pandemic. They intend to use funds available for this program to hire a principal to run it and have enough educators interested to staff it. Parents have requested programs focusing on reading, writing, math, and organizational skills. The team will be working to provide robust June and August offerings.

The committee was supportive of the plans shared, asked questions and provided feedback. One suggestion made by a committee member was for the team to consider ways to possibly provide an independent study option for families that would not be around to access in-person summer school.

iPads – Renée Fitzsimmons

Renée Fitzsimmons, Director of Innovation and Principal of the AVA, provided an update on the iPad roll out across the District. She reminded the committee that in 2018-29 we did an exploratory study of iPad use in K-1. In 2019-20 we expanded iPad usage as the primary student device to grades 2 and 5. This year using iPads as the primary device was expanded to grades 3 and 4 resulting in all students in grades K-6 using iPads during 2020-21. Next year the program will organically move into grade 7 and will simultaneously be expanded into grade 8 as well.

In order to support this shift, staff also have iPads in addition to their laptops. Professional learning is being provided which includes three levels of content: 101- What's possible with the iPad?; 102 – Accessibility, native Apple apps and creation features; 103 – Content specific and non-native apps. These courses have been developed with support and professional learning offerings from Apple.

The committee asked questions about how this shift might impact the transition to LFHS for students. It was shared that iPads have been chosen as the appropriate tool at the K-8 level based on the curricular objectives and the types of creating students can do with them. Our students are no longer primarily consumers when using their devices.

Curriculum Review Updates – Denise Galatsianos & Rebecca Saxena

Word Study

Denise Galatsianos, District Literacy Coach, provided the committee with a brief update about Word Study work being done this year. K-4 has been implementing word study this year using the new Fountas & Pinnell resource adopted last year. So far the anecdotal feedback has been very positive. They have also reviewed all spelling and word study assessments. The 5-8 sub-committee has begun meeting. The next steps for this work include revising the K-8 word study curriculum continuum which includes spelling, phonics, vocabulary, word meaning, grammar, and conventions also known as mechanics. At K-4 grade level word lists will be aligned. At 5-8 current resources in use will be documented and any additional needs will be identified.

Writing Review

Next, Ms. Galatsianos went on to share the work done reviewing the writing curriculum this year. They have analyzed and identified trends in K-8 writing data gathered since the adoption of the Lucy Calkins resource. They solicited feedback from staff about curricular resources and decided to continue using the Writing Units of Study. The areas identified for improvement include grammar, language mechanics and spelling. The writing review results will now be shared with K-4 grade level teams and the 5-8 sub-committee. The revised K-8 Word Study Continuum will be used to refine the writing curriculum.

Algebra 1 Resource

Rebecca Saxena, District Math Coach and 7th Grade Math Teacher, shared the process that has been undertaken to identify a new Algebra 1 resource. The DPM team has collaborated with LFHS to determine priorities for an Algebra 1 resource. The team then explored available resources and narrowed it to three options. They also organized a material review session with LFHS, LBMS, LFCD and SoSM which will take place on February 26. The goal is to collaborate with everyone but ultimately DPM will choose the best resource for our curriculum and students. The decision will be made in close collaboration with LFHS. We can expect a recommendation this spring.

Next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled to occur on March 11, 2021 from 12-1:30.