



Educational Programming Committee Minutes

January 19, 2021

Zoom Meeting

Board Attendance:

Committee Members Present: Janet Wilpan, Keith Goldfarb, Jeff Alley, Andrea St. George-Jones, Mercy Hardison

Other Board Members in Attendance: Alison Johnson

Others in Attendance: Nikki Chan, Michael Eastman, Fredy Lazo, Meagan Worcester

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:38 p.m.

Adjustments to the Agenda

No changes to the agenda were made.

Approval of Minutes with Adjustments

Motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was made by Mercy Hardison and seconded by Keith Goldfarb

Votes in Favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion Passes

Review/Discussion of MCLA Instructional Coaching Webinar

Nikki Chan started the discussion by stating how it was nice that the webinar from MCLA fell on the same night as the ED Programming meeting allowing all on the committee to participate.

Nikki shared how peer coaching has impacted RSU 24 - she wants to protect and expand on it moving forward. She then introduced Fredy Lazo, Principal at MVS, and Meagan Worcester, the Instructional Coach at MVS. Nikki stated that there was also a position left unfilled this year as the candidate who was hired backed out right before school started, and beyond that point there was no candidate who had the experience/credentials to be hired as a best fit for ELS/PCS.

Nikki then discussed the process that a team of RSU 24 coaches and admin (including Principals, Nikki, and Michael Eastman) completed with Courtney Belolan, a MCLA coaching facilitator at the time, to develop the RSU 24 coaching program philosophy and get it up and running (Fall 2019). At that time, there were three district Instructional Coaches - 1 MVS Coach, 1 ELS/SMHS Coach, and another ½ time coach at ELS. The coaching philosophy that Nikki shared is still used this year in the district, and specifically lists what a Coach does and doesn't do.

Nikki stated how proud she is of our Coaching model, how well it is working, and how ideally the program would be expanded to be able to support more teachers with solid Tier I and II

instruction to meet more learner needs on grade level. She noted that it would be detrimental if funding was removed for the positions over time.

Fredy Lazo and Meagan Worcester then spoke about the value of the program, and what it has brought to MVS over the last few years. Meagan shared the types of things that she does with teachers, specifically noting that she is not a component of the Evaluation system. She is a “thinking partner” and not a “teacher fixer”. Fredy supported this idea, noting that it is so critical that he and Meagan have a good, collaborative relationship to support staff growth, and that there is a fine balance that exists with confidentiality within both of their roles as they work together. Keith Goldfarb had positive things to say about instructional coaching that has been done at ELS (reported out at MDOE Tier III meetings, of which he is a member of the committee). Other members of the committee were in agreement that this program is beneficial to our staff and in turn our students, and enjoyed the statewide MCLA presentation about instructional coaching that was presented at 6:30 PM prior to the committee meeting.

Proficiency-Based Education update (Standing Agenda Item)

Nikki noted that there was nothing to report at this time.

Future Agenda Items

- Possible new SMHS courses for the 2021-2022 school year

Next Meeting

March 16, 2021 at 5:30 PM - Meeting Format - Zoom

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. was made by Keith Goldfarb and seconded by Mercy Hardison.

Votes in Favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion Passes