

Joint Education Committee D115/D67/D65 Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, February 6th at 7:30am, West Campus Seminar Room B

Attendees:

D67 Board and Education Committee Members – Carl Kirar, Megan Engelberg, Monica Yaun, Vanessa Nowlin, Tanner Van Dusen

D115 Board and Education Committee Members – Jenny Zinser, John Venson, Brian Martin, Gail Gamrath

D67 and D115 Administration – Matt Montgomery, Jeff McHugh, Vail Kieser, Michelle Shinn, Jenny Sterpin, JoAnn Ford Halvorsen, Erin Lenart (LFHS Admin), Patrick Sassen (LFHS Admin), David Hain (LFHS Admin), Jeff Summy (LFHS Math Department lead), Andrea Lemke and Megan Dornecker (LFHS math teachers), Sam Paulsen (DPM Admin), Rob Wegley (DPM Admin), Michael Barry (DPM building coach), Denise Galatsianos (D67 Literacy Coach), Jennifer Parkhurst (D67 Math Coach), Amy Lamberti (D67 Tech Coach)

D65 Board Members – Carrie Steinbach

D65 Administration – Lisa Leali (D65 Superintendent), Nate Blackmer (LB Elementary Principal)

Meeting Notes:

- The meeting was called to order at 7:35am.
- Motion to approve the D67 meeting minutes from November 2023 made by Carl Kirar, second by Vanessa Nowlin. The motion carried.
- Public comment made by Patti Wu-Manchester regarding the changes to the Mandarin program at Cherokee
- The first topic is the current transition process:
 - Sam Paulsen and Rob Wegley from DPM talked about the D67 transition process. The D67 transition starts early in the year, at the end of trimester 1.
 - Leads from LFHS meet with 8th grade teachers to discuss recommendation process.
 - Regular articulation happens between departments.

- o Registration meetings happen in February. Data sharing also happens for students with IEPs or significant support needs.

District 67 Transition



- All Core IDs from LFHS meet with the content teachers in 8th grade to discuss the course recommendation process.
- Counselor meetings in February with all students.
- Data sharing for all students with IEPs and observations for students with significant support needs
- 8th grade IEP and 504 articulation meetings before high school registration in early February
- Reciprocal site visits for the World Language teachers at DPM and LFHS. Including LFHS teachers in an annual D67 World Language Committee meeting to have K-12 articulation.
- Departmental articulation meetings to discuss data, curricular options, and realignment.

- o New this year was a math summit, more transition efforts around language arts where LFHS teachers came to DPM to observe, and world language meetings.
- o All recognize that any transition is hard. QUESTION: Is there a sense of how much of the transitional trouble comes from material vs different methods of teaching? Kids learning to advocate for themselves is part of transition learnings, DPM is working on increasing rigor, DPM will replicate the enriched studies at LFHS to work on improving executive functioning.
- o Nate Blackmer from LBMS noted that in D65 it's a similar process. Registration is happening on February 23rd. They also provide an opportunity for current LFHS students to come back to the middle school to talk to kids – is a powerful experience for the 8th graders.
- o QUESTION from Brian Martin: Is there a per student transition communication happening? Are there accumulated notes on each student, or a learner profile at the high school? Nothing in that level of detail exists, and the profile evolves over time.
- o One comment from Gail Gamrath that she would like to see more emphasis on electives and how those are great pathways for our kids.
- Erin Lenart discussed her proposal for a new "Scout Seminar"
 - o A survey of freshmen and their families shows that 93% of families would like a freshmen transition program, and 90% of 9th graders would like that option.
 - o Would like to get 9th graders involved in activities early – 9th graders not involved in activities early on, will never get involved. Or put another way, students that don't feel connected as freshmen do not feel connected as seniors (same percentage).
 - o Goals of the Scout Seminar would be:
 - Help with the freshman transition to LFHS
 - Teach EF skills like organization, problem solving, time management, and help with PowerSchool/Schoology

- Direct academic support
 - Introduce students to the school including the resource centers, enriched studies, and clubs/sports
- o The Scout Seminar would be an optional study hall for the students. Would provide both direct instruction, for example around time management and organization, and offer support strategies such as academic help.
- o BOE members collected some feedback from freshmen parents on their experience with the transition to LFHS. Parents thought the meetings with counselors were helpful, and liked the APT event “LFHS 101” and the Scout Experience for the students. For improvements they would like see more rigor and executive functioning skills begin addressed at the middle school level so the jump to the high school isn’t as steep. They thought a little more structure around the Scout Experience would be helpful (ie, meet Dr. Lenart, show them where counseling offices are), and encourage more “freshmen only” events.
- Math Department presentation on new Integrative Math by Jeff Summy, Andrea Lemke, and Megan Dornecker
 - o Some members of the LFHS Math Department went to Stanford University for an experience with YouCubed. As a result of learnings there, started thinking about math differently and are now working on a new Integrative Math curriculum.
 - o Does our course work allow students to experience math differently, for example, with exposure to data sciences?
 - o Would like to keep content that shows up on the SAT, but reduce or remove traditional content that is in place only to serve the needs to calc students.
 - o Reduction of topics creates space for non-traditional math topics, hence “integrative math.” Includes modern math topics and provides different ways for students to interact with math.
 - o Some students may not need calculus in a future career so this would cover topics that have more practical, “problem solving” application. Examples include:

Integrated Math 1 Applications

(partial list as of 2.6.2024)

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoring within football • Running a small business and determining interplay of pricing and hours • If-then statements in computer code • Budgeting when living with roommates as young adults, saving to go on a trip with a friend • Water usage within a household • Flawed graphs (wide range of contexts: advertisements, news items) • Probability of winning a promotional contest when purchasing a product | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using a large data set with Olympic scoring data • Lifespan of various mammals • Ages of the U.S. Presidents on inauguration day • Teenage use of various social media platforms • Using percents in understanding daily scenarios like sales, scale drawings, etc. • Percent change in the context of headlines: "Politician promises __% increase in __" • Probability in the context of games • Does Beyonce Write Her Own Lyrics? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CPI (Consumer Price Index) • Fastest U.S. women's marathons • Nutrition information for cereal • Speed of Spotify music downloads • Career points by NBA players • Roof pitch for a home • Kentucky Fried Chicken meals • Shopping at Costco • International optimism • Lung capacity as a function of height • Serena Williams' tennis career wins versus losses • Cost of United Airlines flights as a function of distance • International Optimism |
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- o Recommended reading on the topic is *Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics* by Peter Liljedahl and *Invigorating High School Math* by Steve Leinwand and Eric Milou.
- o QUESTION from Megan Engelberg: How does integrative math line up with the SAT and chemistry, for example? They are aligning that curriculum with standards across topics.
- Ended the meeting with participants handing in written feedback on what's going well and what could go better. Review of that feedback will help determine next steps from this group.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am