

ILT 11/25

Present: J. Chambers, E. Kenney-Levin, S. Bramlage, L. Thelen, L. Wasem, A. Cabrera, B. Sweeney, M. Sherman, S. Barringer, F. Schneider, D. Fox, A. Byars, P. Riddle, H. Durbin, D. Pfeiffer, M. Perdrix, M. Bohmer, M. Egger, T. Ligon, S. Stephenson, Barrett Smith, Brad Smith, D. Coleman, J. Smitson, B. Gordon, A. Tewell, P. Groeber, C. Wickemeier

Meeting Start at 2:45

Reviewing and Accepting Minutes from October

Corrections to Minutes

- Change statement “All students are allowed to take AP Physics classes” to “All students are allowed to take AP Physics classes that have met the pre-requisites or co-requisites.”
- Change one overloaded teacher over 150 to three overloaded teachers (Sedgwick, Montgomery, Owens)

Motion to Accept Minutes - 14 yes

Special Order of Business

- None

Old Business

Correct contractual language

- Pg. 28 line 22 “The principal or designee shall determine the teaching assignments in consultation with the ILT.”
- Keeping this in mind moving forward

Originator

Kenney

District response to ILT request for more paraprofessionals

Chambers

- District said there is no funding available for the 504 testing position
- Currently looking into funding with Alumni Foundation and Parent Association to make this happen.
- Aiming to have funding for the position at least for this second half of the year.
- Would need to work out where this fits in the budget for the school next year.
- Legal definition for small group testing is six students or under according to federal definition
 - If this is a federal requirement, why is this not being handled by the district? Why is this falling to Parent Association and Alumni Foundation?
- Also still need to have a space available for small group testing

New Business

Student Success Center Update

- Smitson passed out data focused on 1st quarter for SSC
 - Data presented will also be posted with minutes
- 2007 encounters with students in SSC for 1st quarter
 - A lot of students need one on one focus and support
- Concerns over 50 eighth graders failing first quarter
 - Only 4 of the 50 were working with the SSC

Originator

Smitson

- Second quarter is going to expand more to eighth grade support to help
 - Smitson will update with supports for eighth graders
- Three full time people and five volunteers
 - Volunteers come in typically one bell a week
 - Full time people are CPS employees
- Only 4% of seventh grade students failed first quarter
- Are there students in other grades seeking support?
 - There are a few older students (4 ninth graders and a few older) who are seeking support
 - Typically identified through referrals
- This school year is the last year for the grant
 - Group that previously offered grant does not seem to be offering it from here on.
 - This was only a two year grant
 - Could include this in the Equity Ask for the school as it helps students succeed
- Seventh grade teams have seen a lot of benefits from having the SSC
 - Fewer failing students, increased support, and happier and better adjusted students
- Classics wanted clarification on some of the supports:
 - With quizzes may help with clarifying questions or providing space for them to take quizzes in small group
 - Latin tutors work with students and staff will help with clarifying work

Enrollment Projections (discussion)

Smith/Chambers

- Projection for next year: 3005 students
 - That is down from 3015
- Current enrollment: 3014
- This primarily impacts staffing
 - Big drop in enrollment means you could lose staffing
 - Would take a severe drop to get to that threshold
- Goal to eventually have enrollment to 2700
- Eventually Chambers would like to have a cap per grade level, but it is still a discussion given ensuring that grades are not significantly uneven
- Results are back from IOWA 7 and 8
 - Results came back just on Friday afternoon so the data has not been completely analyzed yet
 - District has said that 140 would count as our minimum score for getting into Walnut
 - 7th grade 470 students tested and 362 scored a 140 or above (77% of our students)
 - 8th grade 515 students tested and 407 scored a 140 or above (79% of our students)
 - Fewer students passed IOWA at elementary level than expected
 - Partly a result of norming the test and the switch from the Terra Nova
 - Results and breakdown of items will release soon

Latin for incoming 9th graders (discussion)

Chambers

- Requirement would be for ninth graders to take one year of Latin
- Walnut is known as a Classical Education school and Latin is known as a key part of Walnut and gaining a Walnut diploma
- In grades 9-12, 360 students have never taken a Latin class at Walnut
 - 9: 75 students

- 10: 80 students
 - 11: 110 students
 - 12: 95 students
- Breakdown on average GPA for students that entered Walnut in seventh vs ninth grade not done yet but could be
- “One year requirement for any student entering Walnut after eighth grade”
- This would be for the 2020-2021 school year
- Concerns over growing numbers of students purposely entering Walnut in ninth grade to avoid Latin
 - There are some reports of students trying to use the system to purposely go to another school for 7 and 8 and then go to Walnut to avoid projects at other schools too.
- Requirement at Walnut is to take 2 years consecutively of a language
- Would Classics have to create a new class for high school Latin?
 - Classics says no. Latin 1 is already in alignment with what the district would require for it
- Example used before is that for Algebra is a class students can earn high school credit for but it doesn't impact GPA. Could it work like that?
- Students would still have to complete the two-year requirement for language
- Could it potentially be an encouragement for students to earn high school credit instead of coming in seventh grade?
- How would this impact other departments?
 - What if it didn't count as a language credit but it counted as an elective credit?
- Only 3-4 kids enter school after September and typically due to moving in from out of the country and other extenuating circumstances
- Part of this discussion is coming from wanting students
 - Goal is to have students experience that segment of the Classical education
- To get a high school credit for Modern World Language as a 7th or 8th grader, they need to take the course exam along with seniors
 - Classics said Latin does not have a state-required exam but there is the voluntary national exam
 - 7th and 8th graders take Modern World Language national exams along with upperclassmen
 - Counselors suggest that it's another reason that it could be good to count it toward an elective credit so students still need to do the modern world language credit
- Is it still fair to 7th and 8th graders to not earn a high school credit (even as an elective)?
 - Classics are concerned over if that would impact modern world language
 - MWL says that they are already impacted
- To clarify: This is not intended to impact MWL negatively
 - Students could take Latin and MWL as an incoming student at the same time if they wanted
- Could Latin 1 and 2 together count as one credit and then 3 is the second?
 - It is currently that way but it is shifting away from that
 - Textbook is probably going to no longer be split
- Still have a lot of issues to iron out. **Discussion will continue**

Schedule E Contracts Timeliness (discussion)

Sherman

- District Athletics emailed to push back Schedule E payments to January and it has now been moved to this Friday
- Positions are approved in spring, but contracts are approved in fall

- Contracts get signed by staff and admin then it gets sent to the district
- We are currently meeting that deadline for having it sent through
- The Board then just has to approve it, but we don't have control over it
- Schedule E Process and Timeline says that people working over summer should have contracts requested, completed, and submitted to Athletics
 - While yes this worked for football, Marching Band and other activities were not processed according to this
 - Chambers can look into how to ensure the timeline is being met
 - There is also a potential disconnect because sports payroll does not need to be approved through ILT but some of fine arts work does
 - Need to double check on the differences between athletics contracts and other Schedule E contracts
- Maybe at last ILT of the year could review positions that start
- **Postpone discussion for now; Kenney will find out more information**

Pep Rally (vote)

Noland

- Both pep rallies need the big gym for pep rallies on December 6th
- We need to decide if we want it Thursday-Friday or both on the same days
- Testing for American government is happening December 5th and we can't interfere with that timing
- Why are we having a pep rally now instead of January?
 - In January, most junior high sports are already over and we miss our chance to honor them
- If we need to do it on Dec 6th, could we just make them happen at the same time?
 - We have fewer seventh graders
- Could we do a day on the 6th for Junior High and a day in January for the high school?
 - There is already a DJ booked for the 6th for high school
- If it was same day, could we do the following:
 - Junior High 1 2 3 4 5 6 Pep Rally 7
 - Senior High 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Pep Rally
 - Allows for everyone to teach students, even
- Motion for two day vs one day schedule
 - **17 votes for one day schedule**
- We now need to decide what that schedule is going to be
- Other proposal:
 - Junior high go to pep rally during 5th bell and Senior high go during 7th
 - Yes, they would miss
- **Motion to approve a normal schedule day with junior high pep rally during sixth bell and senior high pep rally seventh bell on December 6th**
 - No - 4 Yes - 11 Abstain - 3
 - **Proposal Passes**

Jr. High Health (vote)

Durbin

- Proposal is to have Junior High Health, which is already an approved course, as a requirement for 7th and 8th grade
 - 8th graders can no longer receive high school credit for this class because they are too young to do CPR training, which is a state requirement
 - Around 250 students who were eighth graders in senior high health had to get pulled
 - Found out mid summer that it was not compliant for students to get high school credit as 8th graders

- Students would receive instruction on key topics such as alcohol and drug use, mental health, etc that they otherwise would not get
- Eighth graders currently don't have to take PE as an eighth grader so there could be space to do it
- Junior High Health is an ILT approved course already
 - It is currently an elective and is not a requirement for anything
- Concerns raised over students not being able to have study halls or numbers changing with another requirement
- Prediction that there is not a big change from Morgan who used to teach it
- How would this affect students taking their electives?
 - It would impact if they have a study hall both semesters or at all or not
- Why a requirement vs an elective?
 - These are key topics that students need to have and will use throughout their whole life
- Concerns raised over if parents would be able to have buy in on if their students take the class
- Concerns raised over adding FTEs to health and PE department
- If students fail the class, do they have to retake it?
 - In Fine Arts, they do need to take another course to pass
 - It would be
- **Motion for students to be required to take junior high health for one semester in their seventh or eighth grade year**
 - Yes - 6; No - 8; Abstain - 3
 - Motion Failed
 - **Junior High Health will still be offered as an elective next year**

Exeter (vote)

Schneider

- Proposal to take one of the Algebra classes and make it into an Exeter Algebra 1 class to pilot for next year
- Phillips Exeter Academy
 - System is focused on problem-solving vs memorizing and drilling formulas
 - System is used from Algebra 1 through Multivariable Calculus
- Several math teachers are planning to do PD in the system and learn the Phillips Exeter Academy system
- No new FTEs would be needed for this
- This would require counselor help to reach out to parents and find students to take this course
- If Walnut is about rising to the highest, we should be able to try out new methods and create a space for students to experiment and learn
- Counselors and admin concern over when this would be
 - Counselors would be opposed to handpicking students and creating a class for it
 - Fourth bell could work to place the class because the honors blocks are 1-3 and 5-7 and it would be out of the way of the teams
 - Counselors suggest that teachers can get the training and use it in their classroom
- Concerns over if parents don't have buy in or a choice, how would they react
- Counselors concern over
- Math is looking for counselor help to get parent buy in and help select students
 - This would not be a
- **Item will go back to math teachers to discuss**

Ping Pong Request (vote)

D. Lewis

- Lewis runs Ping Pong Club and initially was not approved as a Schedule E member and is asking to be paid
- There is money left over from district
 - He was listed in the amended list and will be paid
- **No vote needed**

Double Bell .5 AP request (vote)

Pfeiffer

- Kenney recommends that this is brought back to teams and departments for feedback
- Double bell sciences are classes with
 - Can be nested with science classes, study hall, or classes that meet every day but they can do every other day at approval of teachers
 - Past class options have included:
- In the past, students have received a full academic credit but have only been there half the time
 - Suggestion that students can get a half credit
 - This never went through ILT; unclear how this was happening
- Could this open the possibility of any class being attended half time?
- Within our system, we cannot give a half credit for an AP class
- Student rep brought up that it is still the full experience but you are not there full time
- Could there just be an independent study created for any course that would be willing to do this?
 - Counselors concern over issue that this could double the master schedule
- Tends to affect the small numbers of students and small numbers of teachers that have complex science schedules
- Goals for a number of students were that they wanted to boost GPA, according to counselors
- Concern over equity because it is only available for students that are taking an AP science course
- Classics asked if students are doing all the work, why not give them credit?
- How does this tie in to the mental health discussion as well?
 - A number of students are signing up for a number of AP courses and then turning
- Chambers says there is no policy that says this is actually acceptable practice.
 - Before we vote on this, we need to decide if this is a practice we want and one we want to continue
 - We also need to understand there is no partial credit. It is all or nothing.
- Could students do this without the enrollment in the actual course?
 - This would mean auditing the class which does not count toward teacher overload and could pack the class to standing room only
 -
- In past admin approved the nesting
 - Students would have to go to counselors and explain nesting
 - Credit would be added in later at the end of the year
- Students are aware that this has been done
- This proposal mostly affects students who are taking at least one double bell science but it is not nested with both.
- **Motion proposed to take this back to departments**
 - **Yes - 10**
 - **Motion passes**

Motion to end meeting
Meeting ends at 5:05 pm