

MINUTES OF BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES WORK SESSION
November 26, 2018

The Board of School Trustees met in a work session on Monday, November 26, 2018, at the Education Support Center. The following members were present: Mrs. Jenny Higbie, President; Mrs. Elizabeth Galligan, Vice-President; Ms. Lee Ann Wiseheart, Secretary; Mrs. Donna Corbett, Member; Mr. K. Lee Cotner, Member; and Mrs. Rebecca Gardenour, Member. Also present were the following administrators: Dr. Brad Snyder, Superintendent and Mr. Bill Briscoe, Assistant to the Superintendent for Administration and Operations. Mrs. Jan Anderson, School Board Member, was absent.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Higbie called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. RECITE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mrs. Higbie asked everyone to join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Review 2017-2018 ISTEP Results;

Review IN-DOE Letter Grades;

Mrs. Jensen shared the following data in regard to the 2017-2018 ISTEP Results and Indiana Department of Education Letter Grades/Accountability Results:

- NAFC ISTEP Results - Percent Pass - Spring 2018 Grades 3-8:
 - English/Language Arts (ELA) - 67.6%
 - Math - 66.8%
 - Both Math and ELA - 58.1%
- State Averages:
 - ELA - 64.1%
 - Math - 58.3%
 - Both Math and ELA - 50.7%
- NAFC is above State average in all three measures for Grades 3-8

- NAFC ISTEP Results - Percent Pass - Spring 2018 Grade 10:
 - English/Language Arts (ELA) - 63.9%
 - Math - 40.5%
 - Both Math and ELA - 38.2%
- State Averages:
 - ELA - 58.9%
 - Math - 35.9%
 - Both Math and ELA - 33.5%
- NAFC is above State average in all three measures for Grade 10

- State School Accountability Grades 2017-2018:
 - Five Schools with Letter Grade "A"
 - Eight Schools with Letter Grade "B"
 - One School with Letter Grade "C"
 - Corporation Letter Grade "B"

- School Accountability for 2018-2019 Changes from Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
 - Elementary/Middle Schools
 - State Accountability System - Performance 50%; Growth 50%
 - Federal Accountability System - Attendance 5%; Progress/Growth 42.5%; Achievement 42.5%; ELP (English Language Proficiency) 10%
 - Attendance - goal is that schools have at least 80% of 162 day enrolled students at 96% attendance. Could also be a model attendee if student attendance improved by 3% or more as compared to prior year.

- ELP - English Language Proficiency. A student who meets or exceeds her annual growth target will count toward the school's English language proficiency score. Additionally, a student who attains proficiency on the WIDA ACCESS 2.0 assessment will count toward the school's English language proficiency score. The percent of English learners who meet or exceed the annual growth target or attain proficiency will determine the overall English Language Proficiency Indicator score.
- High Schools
 - State Accountability System - Growth 20%; Performance 20%; Multiple Measures 60%
 - Federal Accountability System - Growth 15%; Achievement 15%; College & Career Readiness 30%; Graduation Rate 30%; ELP 10%
 - College & Career Readiness Indicator - earned a passing score on an International Baccalaureate exam; earned a passing score on an Advanced Placement exam; Earned at least three college credit hours from an approved course; or earned an approved industry certification

ISTEP testing will be changing statewide. There will be a new testing format and Mrs. Jensen will share the details of these changes at a future Board meeting.

Mental Health Provider Discussion:

With the funding of a Lilly Grant, the school corporation has been fortunate to provide mental health services this school year. Dr. Jensen shared the following information in regard to this initiative:

- Placement of a Mental Health Therapist in fourteen (14) of our schools
 - Current combined caseloads of: 311
- Partner with eight (8) mental health agencies
 - ACP, Centerstone, Family Ark, Family & Children, Heart2Heart, Home of the Innocents, Life Spring, Personal Counseling
- Placement of Behaviorists Counselors at all Title I Schools
 - Fairmont, Slate Run, Mt. Tabor, S. E. Jones, Green Valley
- Placement of five (5) Social Workers
- Budget Revenue
 - Lilly Grant - 2 years remaining
 - Title IVa

Mrs. Wiseheart asked how much it costs to fund the program and how can we continue to fund this much needed program when the Lilly Grant funds are gone in two years. Dr. Jensen said the program costs approximately \$10,000-\$15,000 per school plus the cost of the social worker therefore, the total cost would be approximately \$250,000-\$340,000. He anticipates our district would qualify for some Lilly Grant funding, but not sure we would qualify for the same programming. Mrs. Gardenour added she is concerned there may not be enough students for the program to be self-sustaining for the agencies in the schools and asked what the Board can do to help. Dr. Jensen said the school corporation will always have to provide "seed money" to maintain the program.

Representatives from the agencies explained the partnership they have with the schools and how they work with the schools and families to provide the needed services. Mr. John Skomp, Dean of Students at NAHS, gave examples of how he has seen noticeable improvements in students' behaviors and the decrease in the number of referrals to the office since the therapists and social workers have been in the building. The buildings are open during the summer and breaks for the agencies to use or students can go to the agencies' offices. About one-third of the students they see during the school year do continue to come for visits during the summer.

Dr. Jensen will be bringing new contracts forward for services for the second semester at the December School Board meeting.

5th & 6th Grade Recess Discussion:

Dr. Steve Griffin, Assistant Superintendent for Middle Schools, and Middle School Principals, Mr. Bill Krammes, Dr. Jessica Waters, and Dr. Keith Bush, reviewed information on the middle school daily schedule, academic impact, and logistics/facilities.

Mr. Krammes reviewed the 5th and 6th grade daily schedule which includes:

- 45 minutes for Writing
- 45 minutes for Specials
- 90 minutes for Literature/Math
- 25 minutes for Science/Social Studies
- 25 minutes for Social Studies/Science
- 30 minutes for Lunch
- 90 minutes for Math/Literature
- 30 minutes for Core+

Dr. Bush reviewed the academic impact, the overall summary of the performance domain, growth domain, and multiple measures domain and how these points and weighted points are used to figure our corporation letter grade from the State. Middle schools are the only schools in the district in which all grade levels are impacted by the ISTEP testing. Our schools' letter grades impact teacher evaluations.

Dr. Waters shared that teachers currently have "walk & talk", breaks when needed, and do Brain Break activities in the classroom. Concerns include:

- 5th and 6th grade class sizes combined in the buildings (Highland Hills has approximately 850 students, Scibner has approximately 475, and Hazelwood has approximately 430);
- layout of the land;
- lack of playground equipment;
- weather - gyms are utilized every period of the day

The middle school administrative team has had extensive conversations regarding this topic, but they do not see where they can give up any time within the current schedule/framework. With this model of maintaining the elementary framework, they have seen increases in their grades. Teachers do give students breaks when they see they are needed. They have found a model that they believe is working.

Mrs. Gardenour commented this is something she is passionate about. At the 5th grade level, students do not have lunch until 1:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. is a long time to be in class without a break. Mrs. Corbett added everyone needs a "brain break."

Mr. Cotner commented that the administrators have found a schedule that is working and both administrators and teachers are comfortable with. Mrs. Galligan added she likes letting the teachers make the decisions on when the students need a break and allowing them to take that.

Mrs. Higbie asked if there are funds available for teachers who wish to purchase kickballs, etc. Dr. Waters said yes, she has building funds available for teacher use.

With no further discussion, the work session was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Schindler, Recording Secretary