

Broad Based Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2014

Committee Members Present

Jeff Osterman, Lori Taylor, Leslie Kimery, Luke Kimery, Laura Samide, Lisa France, Diane Young, Greg Dana, Judy Harrison, Cara Voorhorst, Kathryn Ellis, Erin Brown, Andrea Brown, Dustin Sites, Ginger Davis, Julie Chadwick, Kathryn Dunphy, Christy Shepard, Sara Yambert, Kristen Isbell, Leila Rostam, Kevin Rostam, Darian Rostam and Venetia Faulkenberg.

Minutes

The meeting began at 6:31 p.m. on Monday, September 15, 2014. Mrs. Faulkenberg welcomed everyone for volunteering their time to help with this committee. She wanted to personally thank the many long-time members that have served on this committee, as well as welcoming the new members. Introductions were made. Mrs. Faulkenberg stated that the committee as a whole would meet four times this year to work together on the goals and objectives of our high ability program where all voices would be heard and participation be had by all.

Mrs. Faulkenberg explained the importance of the committee members being a sounding board and an ambassador of the high ability program in Avon Schools. Last year progress was made with the goals set for the year. At the beginning of this year, we will start by reviewing the BBPC's Mission Statement, Belief Statements and Goals. Time was given for all to read the Mission, Beliefs, and Goals for the 2014-15 school year.

The first goal will entail outside consultants, from Ball State University, to review our program second semester. This review will allow the Broad Based Planning Committee to update and revise future goals next year.

The second goal, communication, will continue to be a priority focus for this committee. This will be accomplished by dividing into three sub-committees to address three specific areas: Professional Development Plan, Counseling and Guidance, and Website Analysis.

The professional development sub-committee will develop a professional development opportunity for parents from the ideas created last year. They will work together to firm up a date (during the second semester) and develop a marketing process for this event.

The counseling and guidance sub-committee will work on the social and emotional needs of the high ability student. Last year a survey was created. Now it needs to be distributed. From that

information, we will determine how we can support the implementation of the plan with fidelity.

The third sub-committee, website analysis, will review our current website and analyze it for accessibility and usability. Determine what additions would help staff, parents or the community learn about the high ability program. Matt Shockley, principal of Avon High School, will be on the committee to advise the committee on high school information for the website. Currently we only list K-8 high ability information, as at the high school, high ability and honors courses are self-selected with the exception of math.

Mrs. Faulkenberg showed the committee the current high ability website, and gave a brief synopsis on the current topics that can be found on the website.

Next on the agenda, Mrs. Faulkenberg enlightened the group with what is happening in high ability in Avon Community School Corporation. Venetia wrote a grant for the opportunity for seven Avon teachers to receive the funds for them to attend a one-year program through Ball State University, in which they will receive their high ability teaching endorsement. The Making A Difference grant awarded \$19,600 to Avon teachers to pay for their classes and technology fees. Several of the recipients of this grant are now on the Broad Based Planning Committee and were able to share the experience so far with the group.

One recipient, Dustin Sites, discussed how the program is condensed from two years into one year. He also commented that he has been able to apply some of this knowledge he has gleaned towards his current classroom. The social and emotional issues of high ability students were addressed in his BSU class and now he feels more cognizant of these tendencies in his students.

Venetia also mentioned that Avon is one of three on-campus sites that the Ball State University professors come to. Online coursework is also part of the curriculum, however, what a plus to have the professors come here, so our teachers do not have to travel to Muncie.

A Broad Based Planning Committee member asked if there would be more grant money in the future to allow secondary teachers to take advantage of this opportunity as well. Mrs. Faulkenberg would like to try to keep grant funds set aside next year for this to happen.

No additional questions or comments were made at this time. The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 3, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room. The formal group meeting was dismissed to sub-committee work at 7:02 p.m.