

**REVISED****REPORT OF THE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Student Achievement Committee (SAC) met on Friday, November 17, 2017 at 11:30 AM at the Cincinnati Public Schools Education Center in the Board Office Conference Room.

**ATTENDEES****Student Achievement Committee Members**

Chairperson Eve Bolton, Member Elisa Hoffman

**Administrators**

Tianay Amat, Assistant Superintendent; Cheryl Broadnax, Assistant Superintendent, Early Childhood; Erin Heinrich, Blending Learning Coordinator, Information Technology; Daniel Hoying, General Counsel; Bill Myles, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Isidore Rudnick, Curriculum Manager

**Cincinnati Federation of Teachers**

Jamie Beirne

Kendra Phelps

**Community Members/Board Candidates/Parents**

Anna Byers

**General Counsel and Chair's Update on Business Advisory Council (BIC)**

Mr. Hoying informed the group about [Ohio Revised Code 3313.82 Business Advisory Councils](#). The information has been in the code since 1995. A portion of the code states:

“The board of education of each school district and the governing board of each educational service center shall appoint a business advisory council, except that a school district that has entered into an agreement under section 3313.843 or 3313.845 of the Revised Code to receive any services from an educational service center is not required to appoint a council if the school district and educational service center agree that the educational service center's council will represent the business of the district.”

The council shall advise and provide the following recommendations to the board on matters specified by the board including, but not necessarily limited to:

1. Employment skills and development of the curriculum to instill those skills.
2. Changes in the economy and in the job market.
3. Types of employment in which future jobs are most likely to be available.
4. Suggestions for developing a working relationship among businesses, labor organizations, and educational personnel.

The school board shall also determine the membership and organization of the council.

He also informed the Committee that in year 2017-2018, a new statute (3313.821 Standards for the operation of business advisory councils) will require the Ohio Department of Education to establish

standards for the operation of Business Advisory Councils that shall include at least the following requirements:

(A) Each advisory council and the board of education or governing board that established it shall develop a plan by which the advisory council shall advise the board of at least those matters specified by the board pursuant to section [3313.82](#) of the Revised Code.

(B) Each plan developed pursuant to division (A) of this section shall be filed with the department of education.

(C) Each business advisory council shall meet with its school board at least quarterly.

(D) Each business advisory council and its school board shall file a joint statement, not later than the first day of March of each school year, describing how the school district or service center and its business advisory council has fulfilled their responsibilities pursuant to this section and section [3313.82](#) of the Revised Code.

The Committee agreed that the council would be a natural fit with MyTomorrow. They also advised the Administration to review the organizational makeup and membership of the Business-Education Connectivity Council (BECC) for possible expansion to carry out the responsibilities the BIC, instead of creating a new group.

**ACTION:** The SAC agreed with the concept of the Business Advisory Council and will recommend the Policy Committee draft a policy for the Council. Policy Committee member Elisa Hoffman will make this recommendation at the December 4, 2017 Regular meeting.

### **General Counsel's update on the Board's role in curriculum and textbook**

Mr. Hoying discussed with the Committee the following Ohio Revised Code 3313.21 Authority of school board over selection of instructional materials and curriculum:

(A) The board of education of each school district shall be the sole authority in determining and selecting all of the following to be used in the schools under its control:

(1) Textbooks, pursuant to section 3329.08 of the Revised Code, and reading lists;

(2) Instructional materials; and

(3) Academic curriculum.

(B) The board of education of each school district may permit educators to create instructional materials, including textbooks, that are consistent with the curriculum adopted by the district board for use in the educators' classrooms.

(C) Nothing in this section is intended to promote or encourage the utilization of any particular text or source material on a statewide basis.

He also reviewed Board Policies: 2210 – Curriculum Development; 2510 – Adoption of Textbooks and 2520 – Selection of Instructional Materials and Equipment.

**ACTION:** The SAC will continue discussion on how the Board's role can be expanded around curriculum and textbooks; the status of curriculum; what role the community plays in adopting curriculum and textbooks; what is the "program" for each school. Curriculum and textbooks will be added as an agenda item on a monthly basis.

Ms. Amat will rotate curriculum managers on a monthly basis to attend the SAC meeting for them to provide an update on curriculum.

**ACTION:** The Committee recommended the need for a full board discussion about how to create a partnership for the Board and the Superintendent in adopting textbooks and curriculum.

### **Arts Curriculum**

Ms. Amat informed the Committee that the focus of the presentation is to update the Committee on the variety of Art programs that are available after school, as well as to ensure that offering of the Arts is equitable throughout the District.

Dr. Rudnick reviewed a graph of after school art programs offered at the various schools. The document also contained a list of organizations in Cincinnati offering after school programs at CPS.

The after school arts programming at CPS is currently offered by a combination of the following:

- CPS Teachers (Schedule E Contract)
- Cincinnati Organizations (approximately 43)
- Individual Artists from the community (after cleared background checks and CPS badge)
- Approved parent vouchers (after cleared background checks and CPS badge)

Dr. Rudnick reported that he is working towards a more even spread of the arts being available at all of the schools. He also reported that parents pay for their children to participate in some of the programs.

**ACTION:** Dr. Rudnick will provide the Committee with a report on which schools charge fees for after-school arts and which do not.

Dr. Rudnick emphasized the need to assist schools who have only one or zero opportunities for the arts. Opportunity needs to be at the level of what other schools are getting. He also put emphasis on ensuring that art is equitable at the elementary schools.

Dr. Rudnick's recommendations for inclusion are as follows:

**Step 1 (Most Urgent):** Secure CPS funding for the nine schools who currently either do not have after school arts activities or just one. This includes: Cheviot, Leap Academy, Midway, Pleasant Hill Academy, Roll Hill Academy, Shroder High School, Spencer Center, Taft Elementary School and Westwood.

**Step 2:** Work to secure CPS funding for the remaining eight schools that have limited after school arts Activities (3 or less), including: AMIS, College Hill Fundamental Academy, Covedale, Dater High School, Hays-Porter, Hughes STEM High School, Rockdale Academy and Western Hills University High School.

**Step 3:** Work to increase the equity of after school arts programming in relation to after school athletics at the high school level and work to increase the equity of after school arts programming at the elementary school level.

Dr. Rudnick reported that he worked with Resource Coordinators (RC) in providing the information contained in his report and that they are very involved in the arts at their schools.

He also reported Activities Beyond the Classroom (ABC) has a presence in several of the schools and is interested in expanding their presence in the arts at the schools.

**ACTION:** Ms. Amat and Dr. Rudnick will reach out to Brian Leshner, Executive Director for ABC, to discuss what funding needs to be created in-order to work with the District. The SAC will invite Mr. Leshner to a Committee meeting to involve him in the conversation. This will be an item of priority.

Ms. Phelps recommended doing presentations about art programs that are offered in the schools. She also recommended doing demonstrations of the arts during the presentations.

**ACTION:** Ms. Bolton advised to explore putting together an arts package that includes various types of arts and extracurriculars that sum up what is being offered at the schools. This could be used as a baseline. "Think big, scale fast."

**ACTION:** Dr. Rudnick highlighted the following schools as the focus of priority in getting arts implemented at these locations: Midway, Pleasant Hill, Roll Hill, Shroder High School, Taft High School, and Westwood. He will reach out to the arts organizations to work on getting them to offer arts into the schools

**ACTION:** Ms. Amat will provide the Committee with a list of schools that have art and music, and which ones do not.

**ACTION:** Dr. Rudnick will update the Committee at the February SAC meeting on his assignments. He will also do an overview of the Fine Arts curriculum. His presentation will be presented to the full Board at a future meeting.

**ACTION:** Ms. Amat will update the Committee on Career and College at the December 11, 2017 SAC meeting.

This presentation and discussion represents the continuation of the equity in arts programming conducted by the Student Achievement Committee.

### **Usage of Schoology – Erin Heinrich, Blended Learning Coordinator**

Ms. Heinrich informed the Committee about the usage of school for the months of September and October 2017. Usage was as follows:

- Average Monthly Student Logins – 21,785
- Average Monthly Student Assignment Submissions – 61,477
- Average Monthly Teacher Logins – 2554
- Average Monthly Parent Logins – 1219
- Average Monthly Test/Quiz Submissions – 61,513
- Average Monthly Discussion Posts – 12,121

Ms. Heinrich reported that she is working on ways to get parent usage up.

She also reported that Schoology is available for use by the District and that High Schools are using the tool more often as well as elementary school teachers.

**ACTION:** Ms. Heinrich will provide use of Schoology data by building and update the Committee at the December 11, 2017 SAC meeting

**ACTION:** Ms. Amat will present Performance Matters Platform, a resource for teachers at the December 11, 2017 SAC meeting.

**OSBA Updates from Capital Conference Topics – Committee Chairperson Eve Bolton**

Ms. Bolton will update the Committee about the topics at the December 11, 2017 Student Achievement Committee meeting.

**Superintendent Evaluation**

Committee Chairperson Bolton will meet with Superintendent Mitchell regarding her evaluation document in order to create a timeline.

**Date and Outline for Community Conversations on later Starts for High Schools – Administration**

Ms. Bolton reported that Pat Neal-Miller is working on a community conversation to take place for either the first or second week in February 2018.

The following was discussed as an outline or expectation of what would occur at the meeting:

- Step 1: Presentation of the research, why and how.
- Emphasis on half of CPS High Schools currently implementing later start times.
- How have other districts handled?
- Identify problems that need to be solved; budget, financial, transportation.
- Breakout Sessions on problems that need to be overcome.

Ms. Byers reported that a meeting is planned with City Council on November 30 to discuss planning a Hack-A-Thon in late January or February 2018.

The hack-a-thon is to present patterns of transportation data of students.

**ACTIONS:** Board staff provide the Committee with the common feeder schools to the high schools.  
Board staff provide the Committee with the early and later start high schools.  
Board staff provide a contact list of elementary school principals.

**ACTION:** The SAC will continue discussion of the Community Conversation at the December 11 SAC meeting.

**ACTION:** The SAC advised to schedule an ACES meeting in February 2018 to discuss housing and mobility.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

**Student Achievement Committee**

Eve Bolton, Chair  
Elisa Hoffman  
Daniel Minera, absent

**Staff Liaisons**

Cheryl Broadnax, Assistant Superintendent  
Bill Myles, Assistant Superintendent