

Harrisburg School District

Act 141 Advisory Committee Meeting

January 11, 2024
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

In Attendance:

Committee Members: Darnise Anderson, Melanie Cook, Dr. Marisol Craig, Laura Harding, Beth Light, Susan Roth, Eugene Spells, Dr. Marcia Stokes, Dr. Lori Suski, Jim Thompson, Doug Thompson Leader, Eric Turman, Dr. Travis Waters, Dr. Tamara Willis

Staff: Adam Nornhold

- Dr. Waters welcomed members back and wished the group a happy new year.
- Dr. Waters welcomed Susan Roth, Principal/CEO of Sylvan Heights Science Charter School, who has been appointed by the CAIU as the replacement for Tim Wendling on the Act 141 Advisory Committee. Ms. Roth introduced herself to the group.
- Dr. Suski announced that the proposed plan amendment which had been submitted to the Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas in July 2023 was recently approved by the judge.
- Dr. Waters introduced the four new academic goals that were recently approved and said that the committee would be discussing one goal per month and providing feedback on the action steps/metrics presented.
- Dr. Waters began by sharing the action steps for Goal #2 around early childhood (see attachment). The committee offered the following comments/suggestions:
 - *Partner with other agencies and track progress toward early childhood goals;*
 - *Marketing of Pre-K and K-5 since neither is compulsory in Pennsylvania;*
 - *Desire to seek additional funding for more Pre-K classrooms as there is a waiting list for students to attend;*

- *PA Stars is a good document to download for quality Pre-K and K-5 information;*
 - *A “Jump Start” program for K-5 would be beneficial;*
 - *Seek representatives to attend Dauphin County Poverty Forum and Catherine Hershey meetings to get further ideas;*
 - *Create materials for parents to use at home with their children (ex: flip charts);*
 - *Develop PK-2 assessment maps;*
 - *Look at student benchmark data for middle of the year (MOY);*
 - *Offer quality professional development to Pre-K teachers and time to plan with a facilitator on teaching strategies that are developmentally appropriate;*
 - *Improve instruction so that parents do not pull their children out of HBGSD and enroll them in cyber charter schools;*
 - *Post curriculum on the District website so parents can see what their children are learning;*
 - *Provide parents resources through SAS website and other reputable sites;*
 - *Expose students to grade-level curriculum and fill in learning gaps where needed;*
 - *Scaffold instruction for students who are below grade-level.*
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- Dr. Waters thanked the group for their input and commented that the hour went by quickly. Dr. Suski suggested that Dr. Waters provide access to next month’s goal ahead of time so that the committee can come prepared with feedback to expedite discussion.
 - Dr. Waters reminded the committee of the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
 - The meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.