

# MINUTES

## Curriculum Meeting October 2, 2019

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### In Attendance

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B. Fickes, K. Storey, N. Cunningham, Jr., M. Brown, L. Snow, C. Friedl, W. Brown, B. Beilfuss, F. Bilotto, F. Williams, C. Morris, R. Lightfoot, Jr., F. Crayton, E. Crayton, L. Cruz, A. Holmes, R. Penman, L. Pietraszewski, C. Hampton, J. McCulloch, V. Rodriguez, M. Gonzalez, M. Rouse II, J. Steward, K. Hodges, W. Dendler, A. Whittington, C. Friedl, I. Turpin, E. Williams, Q. Dillard, C. Covington

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### Report by Student Board Curriculum Committee and overview of Hands Across Harvey presented by V. Rodriguez and B. Fickes

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There will be a college panel in the Thornton Auditorium featuring people from trade schools, the armed forces, as well as people with various degrees. Hands Across Harvey will be October 26<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 2pm. Everyone can register on the District 205 website or through the Student Board Instagram page at @SB205. Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring their friends and family with them.

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### Standards Based Learning Pilot Project presented by J. Mitchell and M. Rouse II

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Jennifer Mitchell and Michael Rouse with the original co-chairs of this project. Now, there will be representation in each building. Dr. Kimberly Hodges will be an admin chair with Michael Rouse as the teacher chair at Thornridge, Jennifer Mitchell is the admin chair with Rob Seieber as the teacher chair at Thornton, Andrea DeYoung will be an admin chair with Jasara Hines as the teacher chair at Thornwood, Tyran Cox-Bey will be the admin chair with Sarah Reyes as the teacher chair at Peace, and Pat Fortier will be the admin chair with Shannon Garza as the teacher chair at Outlook.

This project is meant to change grading practices and reflect what students know. There were letters sent out in English and Spanish to let parents know about the project. Over many years, and visits to several schools, there have been many misconceptions about what Standards Based Learning is and what it is not. Standards Based Grading is practice with grades versus Standards Based Learning is better learning and growth, and helps with best instructional practices. Each school is different, and we must consider what will work best for the District and community. Staff input was considered when making decisions. The 2018-2019 school year, the focus was on building capacity, and interested staff did a pilot. Tony Ribo, who is an expert on Standards Based practices from Stevenson was brought into to lead PD sessions. District 205 used expertise, but didn't follow a set plan. We built what would work for us.

For the 2019-2020 school year, there is a comprehensive professional development program. The launch will provide PD pilots for new interested teachers. The committee was restructured to have at least one teacher and one administrator from each building to answer and support staff and efforts being made. There will be sub-committee meetings each month and current SBL pilot staff will help facilitate this PD building capacity.

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### Drivers Education Course Update presented by C. Friedl, W. Dendler and M. Gonzalez

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Last year the School Board approved a four phase course; class, simulator, range and behind the wheel. This year, 10 cars were purchased from KIA, which will help eliminate behind the wheel hours on the road. There will be more control, moving from three hours to two hours per student. The simulators cut behind the wheel

time, but adds to safety. This year, the district will be able to help catch up on behind the wheel hours from summer as soon as all cars are ready, the teachers will be ready to go. Currently, we are waiting for the extra break to be installed. There will be one SUV per building, which will make a difference.

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## District 205 Student Growth Data and ECRA Report presented by K. Storey

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ECRA focuses on making safe and secure decisions, but need support in order to collect and analyze data, which provides wisdom and insight. Last year, the goal was to identify what the vision of a District 205 graduate is. There were meetings with all the stakeholders, which provided the North Star (Silver). The district then began to develop and share key points to measure data and effectiveness in addition to see the growth of our students. This is a partnership that we are continuing this year. Dr. Cunningham stated that most of the time we focus on achievement. Without achievement, it looks like nothing is working. We need to measure growth. Right now, we're getting six years of learning completed in four years, and need to see a return of investment.

ECRA is a firm based out of Schaumburg, and their aim is to work with school districts and find best practices. Their analytics are specific to District 205. They're looking at norms, and provides a powerful framework. They introduced how to utilize student growth using a technology platform that looks at the data through different applications. The four apps are Strategic Dashboard, School Improvement, My Students and Personalized Learner Profile (PLP).

The Strategic Dashboard utilizes district wide data. It will look at different measures of student success achievement, student growth, percentage of students in AP/IB classes, student participation in community events, etc. It will really show the measure of student success.

The School Improvement app is aimed for district and building admin teams, and how students are performing across the year. Proficiency doesn't say how efforts are impacting scores. It'll examine the norms (what is the typical performance projected scores. It'll measure growth against projected versus historical data; what programs and initiatives are attributed to students' growth at higher rates. It will look at last school year, at students who participated in different programs (SAT prep, IB, AVID) versus students who didn't. AP, IB and SAT Prep students showed higher rates of growth than AVID students in the ELA part of the SAT. Evidence shows that more students should participate. There are differences in each building.

My Students app is for the teacher, and anyone can look at growth of students in the classroom. It will provide a look at differentiated instruction, managing objectives, differentiated supports. It was introduced at the end of the 2018-2019 school year, and will be continued to be introduced.

The Personalized Learner Profile app will show student growth and the whole child. There will be different success indicators such as persistence, grit and involvement. It will operationalize information with students able to self-report and share what they're part of. Students will use it as a tool with parent access.

Mr. Fickes stated that we are more than SAT scores. The dashboard will allow us to share more of who we are. We need to pedal faster in order to catch up and these apps will assist us in doing so.

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## Open Forum

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There will be a violent intruder drill coming up in each school. A letter in English and Spanish has been sent home to parents explaining what it is. It is a state requirement that within 90 days of the start of the school year, each school conducts the drill. The first drill be at Thornridge October 8<sup>th</sup> with CBS news there to cover it. The other two schools will conduct their drills at a later date.