

Harrisburg School District

Act 141 Advisory Committee Meeting

October 10, 2024
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

In Attendance:

Committee Members: Dr. Sieta Achampong, Jody Barksdale, Melanie Cook, Dr. Marisol Craig (arrived at 5:28 p.m.), Laura Harding, Yvonne Hollins, Beth Light, Susan Roth, Dr. Andria Saia, Dr. Marcia Stokes, Dr. Lori Suski, Jim Thompson, Doug Thompson Leader, Dr. Tamara Willis (departed at 5:45 p.m.)

Staff Members: Dr. Portia Slaughter, Dr. Benjamin Henry (departed at 5:45 p.m.)

Public:

- Dr. Suski opened the meeting at 5:05 p.m. by acknowledging that Superintendent-Elect Dr. Benjamin Henry was in attendance. Dr. Henry introduced himself to the committee members and each committee member stated their name and affiliation.
- Dr. Suski welcomed Dr. Portia Slaughter, Assistant to the Superintendent, to the meeting for the presentation of the curriculum audit that was completed last spring.
- Dr. Slaughter shared that Amended Recovery Plan initiative AP09 requires a curriculum audit which was completed last spring by the Chester County Intermediate Unit (CCIU). The key purpose of the audit is to examine alignment of District curriculum to the PA Core Standards. Dr. Slaughter said that the curriculum frameworks are 9 – 10 years old but some are newer. The process involved a review of 58 K-12 curriculum documents rated against the framework tool during the months of April through June 2024. Dr. Slaughter stated that there were six (6) key findings of the audit:
 - The District's curriculum framework correlates with best practices.
 - A consistent structure exists for core subjects (ELA, Math and Social Studies) with Math being the most comprehensive. ELA had a Year-at-a-Glance but is missing some elements.
 - The curriculum includes PA Core and PA Academic Standards.
 - Electives are offered in Math & Science, AP and College in the High School but not in ELA.
 - Math/ELA have assessments by unit and content.

- Content is aligned with evidence-based practices (Science of Reading K-2).
- Dr. Slaughter shared the following recommendations from the audit:
 - Further align framework across all content/grade levels and create consistent frameworks across all K-12 subjects
 - Refine essential questions
 - Explore expanded vocabulary
 - Provide multi-lingual learning opportunities and accommodations
 - Develop a universal curriculum framework
 - Develop pacing guides and instructional plans
 - Include all standards for PA Core ELA across all subject areas
 - Differentiate with varying levels of rigor
 - Develop common formative assessments
 - Expand summative assessments
 - Establish evaluation criteria
 - Create a repository for curriculum documents
- Dr. Suski requested topic input for the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Hearing no ideas, she suggested the committee return to finishing discussion of the four academic goals. Goal #4 was the remaining goal that had not yet been unpacked as of last spring. The committee agreed with that approach.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.