

MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING  
Homewood-Flossmoor High School, 999 Kedzie, Flossmoor, IL  
January 17, 2025

In attendance for all or part of the meeting were, Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Riedel, Dr. Wakeley, Dr. Alexander, Dr. Hester, and Mrs. Ross-Cook. Mr. Legardy attended the meeting via Zoom video conference.

Ms. Marilyn Thomas, HF Chronicle was present.

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 a.m.

Approval of Minutes. The October 11, 2024 minutes stand approved as presented.

Comments. No comments were received.

Old Business:

Instructional Coach Update. Mrs. Ross-Cook provided an instructional coach update and discussion ensued on the overall instructional coaching structure, progress towards goals, and opportunities for growth. Mrs. Ross-Cook noted there are currently five instructional coaches at and their work is anchored to the district's strategic plan. The instructional coaches take a student-centered approach with goals focused on: high quality and effective learning experiences, engaging equity-centered practices, data-centered instructional design and culturally competent and innovative staff. In their role they use coaching cycles as well as providing consultation that at this time is teacher initiated. The coaches engage in data driven practices in accordance with John Hattie's research that is guiding our teachers to high impact practices. It was noted that John Hattie has the biggest empirical research in 40 years. Dr. Wakeley noted that teachers' efficacy makes the most difference in the academic success of students. Mr. Riedel suggested the creation of instructional videos as an additional resource that can be used as educational tool for teachers to consume on their own. He encouraged them to use HF's instructional coaches in the videos focusing on the content and be less concerned with the level of quality of the videos. Mr. Riedel added that this format will be effective in supporting the work of the instructional coaches. Mr. Legardy shared that Stevenson High School has resource videos regarding standard-based learning on its website. He suggested that perhaps their model can be replicated and customized to meet HF needs. Mrs. Hoereth expressed that it would be interesting to look at this again next year after another year of data has been collected. Mrs. Ross-Cook spoke on opportunities for growth that will cultivate team and individual growth that include: Identify measurement tools to determine impact on student achievement, restructure coaching cycle guidelines – shifting from solely teacher initiated to PLC goal-directed and a required component for supporting non-tenure teachers and reduce the number of coaches to be fiscally responsible and align with current reality of instructional coaching implementation. As a team they will be engaging with Sweeney, will participate in Jim Knight modules, and they will participate in collaborative instructional coach work with other area schools. The team will also hone in on equity-centered practices and engaging in instructional coaching challenges. Mrs. Ross-Cook shared that one of the Instructional Coaches has requested to return to the classroom and at this point they will not fill

that position. Mrs. Ross-Cook also noted that they are in the process of restructuring the program. Dr. Hester added that next year the four coaches will focus on English, math implementation and the new work going on in science and then social science on the heels. Mrs. Ross-Cook added that their goal is to come into the year with a work plan. Mrs. Hoereth encouraged Dr. Hester and Mrs. Ross-Cook to consider hiring a data analytic intern for the summer as an economical and great way to dive into data that may be beneficial in helping them to think about the data differently. Mr. Riedel encouraged them to seek out teachers who would benefit from the instructional coaching opportunity and not to rely solely on teacher initiated coaching. The committee looks forward to future follow ups regarding this initiative.

#### New Business:

Instructional Resource Recommendations SY26. Dr. Hester introduced the instructional resources being proposed for the 2025-2026 school year. She reviewed the list of the instructional resources, primarily textbooks and some multimedia. Dr. Hester added that administrative and department staff engaged in a thorough review process to provide students with relevant, rigorous and appropriate resources for instruction. In addition to Dr. Hester's review, the resources were reviewed by teacher teams and Department Leads using content-specific and standards-aligned criteria. Departments requesting these resources for school year 2026 include: CTE, Fine Arts, ELL, World Language and Science. Dr. Hester noted that the new English course textbooks are currently not available but will be brought to the Planning Committee at a future date. Dr. Hester stated that the textbooks are available today for the committee's review. Mr. Legardy requested that the English textbooks/resources be provided to the full board with adequate time for the full board's review prior to the Planning Committee meeting. He added that the materials will be of interest since there was previous discussion on the English resources. Dr. Hester stated that she will make those materials available at least a week prior to the next Planning Committee. This item will be on the January 21, 2025 board agenda for approval.

Policy Updates. Dr. Wakeley spoke on the policy updates provided by PRESS that include revisions to policies. There are minor revisions to the policies based on new legislation or legislative changes and/or updates. He noted that they have been waiting for PRESS to provide administrative procedures and exhibits to the district's policies. Dr. Wakeley stated that it looks like that process will begin this spring with completion by the start of next school year. Board members will be invited to be part of the review team along with Dr. Norrell. This item will be on the January 21, 2025 board agenda for approval.

Closing Remarks. Dr. Wakeley informed the committee that as part of the district's strategic plan, an articulation meeting that includes the feeder districts' superintendents, principals and curriculum and instruction directors/staff, will be held on January 24, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Dr. Norrell will also be available at the meeting. He noted this meeting will provide an opportunity to garner feedback for a better understanding of what the feeder districts' needs are in terms of curriculum. Dr. Wakeley will share a tentative agenda with the board and this meeting will be the first of a regular progression of articulation meetings that will be held moving forward. Mrs. Hoereth suggested creating an overall goal with the feeder districts that they all can support.

Dr. Wakeley also spoke on Vision 2030. Vision 2030 is a plan for improving public education in Illinois. The Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) and other education organizations introduced the plan in November 2024. Vision 2030 provides a blueprint to enhance public education through future-focused learning with shared accountability and predictable funding. A resolution for adoption in support of Vision 2030 will be on the January 21, 2025 board agenda for approval by the Board of Education. Vision 2030 was introduced at the Illinois Association of School Boards' Joint Annual Conference in November.

Dr. Wakeley shared recent good news that Mr. Shannon Swilley former HF Associate Principal of Equity, Curriculum & Instruction, recently started a new position on January 1, 2025, as Assistant Superintendent at Bradley-Bourbonnais's elementary district. Dr. Wakeley offered his congratulations and expressed he wishes Mr. Swilley the very best in his new role. He added Mr. Swilley will do a great job.

Mr. Legardy requested an update on Terrace Metrics to be given at the next Planning Committee meeting. Dr. Hester will provide that information.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 9:31 a.m.