

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Excellence in Student Achievement Committee Meeting
February 11, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Attending: Commissioners: Malik Evans (Chair), Mary Adams, Van White.
District Staff: Beverly Burrell-Moore. **Board Staff:** Kimberly Turner.

Absent: Commissioner Cynthia Elliott, Craig Cypher (Parent Representative).

I. Motion made by Commissioner Malik Evans to approve the January 14, 2014 minutes seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 2-0.

II. Presentation on RCSD Counseling Services

Beverly Burrell-Moore, Deputy Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, provided a presentation titled *School Counseling and Guidance Overview*. The new Director of Counseling will start in March 2014.

Key points of the presentation included how counselors serve our students:

- Individual student academic program planning.
- Interpreting cognitive, aptitude and achievement tests.
- Counseling students who are tardy or absent.
- Counseling students who have disciplinary problems.
- Counseling students as to appropriate school dress.
- Collaborating with teachers to present School Counseling Core Curriculum Lessons.
- Analyzing grade-point averages in relationships to achievement.

Presentation included information on Guidance and Support Services:

- Interpreting student records.
- Ensuring student records are maintained as per State and Federal regulations.
- Providing individual and small-group counseling services to students.
- Analysis of disaggregated student data.

Discussion items and questions:

1. Career Zone is the current system used to aid students in career choices and direction. The department is considering using NOVIANCE a systems used by many other School Districts.
2. What role does the Guidance Counselor have in graduation planning? Ms. Burrell-Moore stated that the Guidance Counselors currently meets with their School Principal and provide updates on the students that they are assigned.
3. A recommendation was made that each student should have and Individualized Graduation Plan similar to Individualized Education Plan (IEP) for Special Education students. The recommendation included the need for a policy that ensures there will be a consistent and ongoing requirement to provide this to all students.

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4. What is the Guidance Counselors role in the Social/Emotional support for students? According to Ms. Burrell-Moore the Guidance Counselor is part of the Student Support Team and provides/receives input on the student's behalf.
5. What is the status of Guidance Counselors at the Elementary level? Their role would be in career development including initiation, introduction to career choices and expectations and support the student social/emotional needs. There was a recommendation that a Counselors be established at a .5 or 1.0 FTE at each elementary school and would be at the school 5 days a week.
6. What type of background do Guidance Counselors have? Ms. Burrell-Moore stated that they hold a school counseling certification and have completed graduate-level course work, obtaining a Master's Degree. Continuing education and training credits are required to keep up with certification.

Action Items:

1. Provide information about Datacation and SPA. These are systems used to track students in the Guidance Counseling area.
2. Provide the status of Guidance Counselors at the elementary school level. What are the costs of having one in each elementary school building?

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Evans at 7:00 p.m.; seconded by Commissioner Adams.