

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Excellence in Student Achievement Committee

March 12, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Attendance: Commissioner White, Chair; Commissioner Campos, Connie Leech, Cheryl Holloway, Jeanette Silvers, Gloria Sullivan, Brandon Keaveny, Nero Alexander, Kelly Bauman, Kathryn Yarlett, Linda Locastro

Commissioner White called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

I. Minutes

Motion to approve February Minutes was made by Commissioner Campos; Seconded by Commissioner Williams; **Adopted 3-0**

II. Literacy Design Presentation

Connie Leech gave opening remarks on the Department of Integrated Literacy with an overview of the department, and explained the mission. Literacy Instruction K-6, 39 elementary schools. Kelly Bauman states that the model is based on scientific reading research, effective practices; adaptability, systems that work and a literacy culture.

Developing a Literacy Culture: Field trips are connected to literacy; kids engaged in

Two and one-half hour blocks of reading.

Kathryn Yarlett stated that there are three tiers; all students start at Tier I (Benchmark); additional supports are provided at Tiers 2 and 3 (intensive); currently available in 9 schools; will be implemented in all elementary schools in the fall. The District is designing their own model. Discussion included the different assessments used to determine progress, which include workshops, professional development and assessments and helping parents understand how they can support students at home. Teachers need to understand the targeted areas, need to diversify instruction and the needs of each student. Diagnostic assessments will let teachers know if students need intensive, strategic intervention of whether they meet the benchmark or extension (enrichment) MAP.

The committee was given an overview of the secondary (7-12) literacy initiative:

Nero Alexander discussed the secondary literacy model beginning with assessments SRI, NER Benchmark Assessment and New York State ELA Assessment.

SRI is new this year; it's a 20 minute computer assessment done twice a year; reports are available immediately; available 20 reports for students, teachers, and parents. The report generates a recommended reading list; generates a parent letter that gives suggestions on how parents can support kids at home.

System 44 is a new intensive intervention (includes phonics). We received DICA funds for this program.

Read 180 is the strategic intervention for students reading more than two years below grade level.

Rochester Curriculum (SB) benchmark and support enrichment includes Springboard.

AP – Offers exams and college credit.

The District will be collaborating with the Mayor's Office on campaign for literacy, reading, and nonviolence.

They will be collaborating with the Center for Youth on a summer reading program for K-4 in 9 elementary schools.

Motion to adjourn was moved by Commissioner Williams; seconded by Commissioner Powell. **Approved 3-0**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.