

# **GWRSD Academic Affairs Committee Meeting Notes**

**KRHS Plex**

**October 22, 2025 5:00pm**

**Meeting:** The meeting was called to order at 5:08pm.

**Present: Academic Affairs Committee:** Tom Bickford (5:23), Dr. Beth Sheckler, Mary Schillereff, Danielle Van Dusen

**Administration:** Superintendent Caroline Arakelian, Assistant Superintendent Katey Hills, Curriculum Director Danielle Harvey

**Others Present:** Kim Kelliher, Lynn Peterson, teaching staff, students, community members

**Agenda Review:** GWEA representatives requested to present a survey.

## **Curriculum and Grading Update:**

Assistant Superintendent Hills introduced Curriculum Director Danielle Harvey. Ms. Harvey described her experiences as she joined the District this summer and began visiting schools and meeting with teachers and Academic Coordinators.

Assistant Superintendent Hills updated the committee on credit for Middle School World Language and Algebra courses that align with High School competencies.

Ms. Kelliher and Ms. Peterson presented the results of a survey of the GWEA membership of K-12 staff in October. They requested the committee consider the feedback from teaching staff that showed concerns that there is not enough evidence that Competency Based Grading is good for students; that there is not a clear path forward; that staff feels unprepared for a change to the grading system; that the staff expressed the need for more training and time for this change; and the staff also expressed that they feel that students understand the 0-100 as a concrete scale while the 1-4 scale is abstract to them.

Mr. Bickford arrived at 5:23pm.

The committee opened the floor for participation in discussion by those present which included: the capacity of Infinite Campus to provide dual reporting of grades; student and parent concern for how this new grading system will affect the college application and acceptance process; student concern about greater emphasis on standardized testing; parent concern for how this new grading system will acknowledge students who excel (NHS); student concern for lack of evidence that students and teachers support this grading system change; concern that Infinite Campus has been disruptive to learning and appears to have been implemented without proper preparation; parent concern that this grading system change is being pushed through without input from the broader audience; and student concern that the 1-4 grading scale is confusing.

## **Policy Discussion:**

The committee discussed policy BBBE as edited following 1<sup>st</sup> read at the October 6<sup>th</sup> School Board meeting.

**Motion:** To move policy BBBE as revised to the full Board for 2<sup>nd</sup> Read on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Moved:** Ms. Schillereff - **Second:** Ms. Van Dusen

**Vote:** all in favor

Ms. Van Dusen left the meeting at 6:12pm.

The committee discussed policies BCA, GBD, and GBK regarding how employees communicate with the School Board and recommended adding a clarifying statement to policy GBD.

**Motion:** To add policy GBD to the Academic Affairs Committee meeting agenda for revision at their November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Moved:** Ms. Schillereff - **Second:** Mr. Bickford

**Vote:** all in favor

The committee would also like to review policies EI and EIB at their November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Several members of the audience thanked the committee for allowing them to be heard at the meeting.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.

Recorded by,



Kathy Lagace

School Board Secretary

Approved by GWRSD School Board: **11/03/2025**