EISA Subcommittee Minutes 2/12/20

In attendance: Chair Tammy Mahoney, Electra Alessio, Jamie Fitzpatrick, Superintendent Tom Ambrose, Director of Academics, Professional Learning and Student Affairs Patty Haynes, High School Principal Brian Stack, High School Assistant Principal/Curriculum Director Bob Dawson, Guidance Director Heidi Leavitt. Called to order by Mahoney at 4:45 pm. Minutes of the 1/22/20 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Updates to the Portrait of a Graduate draft were circulated and discussed. The document will be used to inform curriculum and guide professional development, and is intended to compliment the definition of Student Success and provide a more complete picture of students' skill sets. The goal is that it will be used to set expectations at each grade level, guide teachers in providing feedback to parents about their students' strengths and challenges, and help to identify and develop a plan of action for underperformance. Although the document was on the full board's agenda for discussion that night the committee recommended additional time for review.

Dr. Haynes presented the status of the new grade reporting system development and testing. The district is working with Motivus, which recently met with teacher groups to receive feedback on the software's usability. The prospects are very exciting for information storage and retrieval in a relevant, meaningful way. The goal is to provide an easily accessible narrative to parents which will generate a conversation with teachers about student performance, and ways to reinforce and support their learning. More in-depth information will be made available to the committee in April, after March meetings with Motivus yield additional feedback and refinements.

Dr. Haynes also presented an outline on the status of a math instructional plan. This will be discussed in more detail at an upcoming committee meeting, but a proposed plan includes the goal of providing Algebra 1 in 8th grade, implementing a new math program that supports this goal, and instituting intervention that monitors progress every 6-8 weeks.

Annie Collyer expressed her appreciation of the in-depth information shared about the Portrait of a Graduate, and believes that the reporting system will be very useful for parents. She also wondered about the impact of offering Algebra 1 in 8th grade on the integrated Math 1,2,3 program currently used in the high school.

Meeting was adjourned by Mahoney at 5:55.