

Student Achievement Committee
January 4, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Laura Errington
Davis Podkulski
Colleen Duggan
Linda Dansa

Guests: Jackie Gow, ELA TOSA K-12
Keri Amici, Mathematics TOSA K-12

Focus: Strategic Intent #1 - Teaching, Learning, Leadership

Colleen opened the meeting and introduced our TOSA's, Keri Amici and Jackie Gow.

Jackie started the presentation and stated that they had been working on spending time in all elementary buildings each week in order to support both teachers and students. She shared her own goals, which include to support and shape the Frontier Writes assessment. She explained how we have expanded these on-demand writing assessments up into the Middle School (Grade 6). She added that she has provided one-on-one support to the many new teachers in our district, especially with the various assessments we administer to our students. Jackie also shared her work with our Universal Pre-K (UPK) program, as well as the work surrounding the phonics pilot committee.

Keri then began her presentation and explained how she wanted to share how buildings are working together vertically. She noted the i-Ready system we use for benchmarking and instruction. She also described the eDoctrina assessments and monitoring for AIS.

Keri stated that our buildings are preparing to transition to the Next Generation standards, and these changes are going to be reflected in our scope and sequence documents. She added that we are critically evaluating Math-In-Focus to determine topics/units which may not be part of grade level standards. She stated that we will be expanding our elementary team to include grade level representatives who will evaluate our benchmarking assessments, which are currently aligned with the CCLS.

Keri stated that we are in the very early stages of developing assessments in eDoctrina. She noted that she has been working with teachers and with Brian Blaszak in learning about the CBT part of eDoctrina.

Keri then moved to the topic of AIS monitoring, and stated that this is a work in progress.

Jackie then shared her work at the Middle School level. She noted the development of common formative assessments, as well as her Grade 6 data chats with students. Jackie stated that during her data chats with students, several students have shared their personal struggles. She added that this has allowed her to establish connections with both students and teachers. She noted that her work has supported teachers in recognizing how to use i-Ready both for planning instruction and individual student support.

Keri then described her work at the Middle School. She stated that all mathematics teachers at FMS now use eDoctrina for their benchmarks and assessments. She added that the reports available in eDoctrina are valuable. She stated that the Gr. 8 teachers have put all of their assessments into eDoctrina and are then able to generate reports based on individual standards. They are then able to follow student progress with standards they have struggled with on previous assessments.

Keri stated that AIS has changed at the Middle School. Teachers service their own students and are able to differentiate their support of students more effectively. She described her i-Ready chats at all three grade levels, and added that both students and teachers have set goals for the upcoming second diagnostic.

Jackie then turned the focus to the High School, and stated she was working with the English department on the topic of common formative assessments. She has also supported teachers with AIS ELA development. Keri stated that the math department at the High School had been working on scope and sequence by class, as well as common assessments. She stated that common formative assessments are not as far along at the High School as they are at the Middle School. She also stated that AIS is an area of development this year, and she commended the newly hired AIS teacher who progress monitors and effectively supports her students in all courses. She stated that we are able to offer more opportunities for AIS at the high school this year.

Laura commended both Keri and Jackie for their work, and stated that she sees us using i-Ready more than the state assessment data in planning for both instruction and student support.

Colleen added that our TOSA's have helped to build capacity and teacher confidence quickly in the first half of our year. She noted that the addition of these positions has been so beneficial to our district, and added that they have exceeded her expectations.

John asked about additional resources and support that could benefit our students and teachers, and Keri noted the impact of time for collaboration for teachers. He also asked about staffing and class sizes. Both Jackie and Keri weighed in and stated that class sizes are appropriate. The AIS program has improved through the addition of staff. Keri added that COVID is creating challenges for teachers in keeping students caught up with regard to skill development.

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, February 8, 2022
3:30-4:30 pm