



Academic Committee
February 23, 2021
11:00 at CT Young

Participants:

Ryan McDonald, Board Vice President

Joan Stidham, Dir. of Curriculum

Megan Rivet, Student Services Director

Adam Biedenbach, Elementary Principal

Lisa Whiteley, Dir. of Communication

**Please know that no decisions were made during this meeting. The purpose of this committee is to discuss the academics of Three Rivers Local School District. Any District decisions are made during Board of Education meetings. These meeting dates can be found on the Three Rivers Local School District website.*

1) Virtual Academy Update

a) Survey

As of 2/23/21

K-5 Survey:

-51 responses

-33 indicated wanting to return to in-person learning for the 2021-22 school year.

-8 indicated wanting to remain in the Virtual Academy

-10 are undecided

6-12 Survey:

-47 responses

-24 indicated wanting to return to in-person learning for the 2021-22 school year.

-15 indicated wanting to remain in the Virtual Academy

-7 are undecided

b) K-4 and 5-12

-Could this be paid for out of COVID grants?

-We need some level of assurance that enough students would participate to show a need for the Program.

- K-5 needs staffing more so than 6-12. 6-12 is more of a licensing than a staffing need.
- Considering a blended model at the K-5 levels.
- March 1st is the survey deadline.
- Resend the survey out to virtual families. Ensure the messaging is clear that the data is important for a decision to be made for the 2021-2022 school year. The numbers have to show the need.
- If numbers are low, there was a discussion around how to provide the resources to meet the interest.
- Have to consider how difficult it is for families to know in March what their intentions are for August.

2) Updates from Three Rivers Elementary

a) Writing Pilot

- TRES is piloting the program. The DLT and Literacy Team have noticed a consistency with writing at the elementary level and beyond. Principal, Adam Biedenbach, worked with staff to find a more consistent approach to writing.
- State Testing data shows that 3rd-5th grade writing needs improvement.
- Collaborative Classroom program (used currently by other districts); work with Ohio Writing Project.
- TRES received free kits to begin the piloting process.
- Collaborative Classroom will run the TRES program simultaneously with other districts to compare data and ensure its student progress.
- Pilot will span six weeks.
- TRES will not make a commitment to continue with Collaborative Classrooms until student achievement is proven in the data. TRES will discuss this data with other school districts at three weeks and the end of the six week pilot program.
- The program is k-5; the pilot will run for students in grades k-4.
- The program aligns with the TRLSD Literacy Plan
- The program is designed to build writers, not simply meet the testing expectations.
- Discussion around what will be used to determine student progress. Mr. Biedenbach talked about using a writing prompt at the beginning of the pilot and the end to compare the student progress.

b) Other updates

- TRES is working on a DMA (Developmental Math Assessment) to support students who are displaying gaps in math learning. The diagnostic is used to identify specific intervention needs for individual students. Used currently for intervention; could be used long-term for kindergarten diagnostics. Identifies very specific skill sets that need purposeful intervention. Staff that has researched DMA are excited about the support it will provide for teachers and student success.

-In lieu of kindergarten registration, incoming kindergarten students will receive packets that provide parent information as well as other useful learning tools to help prior to the first day of school.

3) Summer Work for Students and Teachers

a) Classroom Antics (96 participants), \$17K

-Afterschool programming and summer camps for kids. They have a week opening the week of June 7th for Three Rivers. 4am sessions/4pm sessions (3 hours each) could be offered to students at TRLSD.

-COVID funding could be used to pay for the camp.

-TRLSD looking to hire a summer program director (paid for through covid funding)

-Families would not need to pay for the camp.

-Remediation will be offered the second half of the day for students who participated in Classroom Antics the other half.

-This is for elementary and middle school students only.

-Lego robotics, video editing, coding, 3D printing were some of the options Classroom Antics offers.

-Want to ensure there is equity in the reservation process.

-Looking at staff interested in teaching in summer camps

-Talk to TRLSD cleaning staff to ensure space is available. Learning opportunities can run simultaneously with cleaning plans.

-Art camp, drama camp, other options made available to the participants.

-Could we pay for driving school options.

-Food trucks/Kona Ice... etc.

-Utilize Crossroads movie theater. The goal is to provide academic support as well as providing a fun opportunity for students.

b) Our teachers-camps and remediation

-

c) Curriculum Work

-

4) Greek system in place of Valedictorian/Salutatorian

a) No Board Policy

-the course selection guide and student handbook are the only places that the system is mentioned.

b) Language found in THS Student Handbook and Course Selection Guide

c) Committee Needed-Ryan?

-strategy committee to discuss the option of replacing the val/sal system with the Greek system.

-this committee would look into the phase out/phase in process.

5) Other Items

-Next meeting: March 23rd 11:00 am - 12:00 pm