

School District of Rhinelander
Board of Education

Instruction and Accountability Committee

Monday, October 9, 2017

MEETING NOTES

Judy Conlin, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, October 9, 2017 in the Professional Development Center of the Administration Center, 665 Coolidge Avenue-Suite B, Rhinelander, WI.

Ms. Conlin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Committee Members Present: Mary Peterson, Ann Munninghoff Eshelman, and Judy Conlin
Committee Members Absent: None

Also present were Superintendent Jacobi, School Board President Ron Counter, Eileen Persike of the North Star Journal and Jamie Taylor of the Northwoods River News.

Chair/Superintendent Comments/Reports

Chair Conlin and Superintendent Jacobi had no new reports or updates to share at this time.

Citizens/Delegations

No citizens/delegations wished to address the Committee.

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the August 14, 2017 Committee meeting were accepted.

Report/Discussion/Action Topic(s)

Achievement Gap Reduction and Student Achievement Guarantee in Education

Teri Maney, Director of Instruction, presented an overview of the Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) program, formerly known as the Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) program, which was established in the 1996-97 school year to improve student achievement. SAGE schools are in the last years of five-year contracts designed to promote academic achievement through lower class sizes in the primary grades. Participating schools receive state aid for each eligible low-income K-3 child.

With the enactment of 2015 Wisconsin Acts 53 and 71, the SAGE program is coming to a close and will be phased out by the end of the 2017-18 school year. These two acts created the AGR program under a new section of statutes. Since our elementary schools are existing SAGE schools, they are eligible to participate in the new AGR program.

The AGR Program allows a participating school to meet the obligations of its five-year contract by implementing one of the following three strategies, or a combination of the strategies in every kindergarten through grade three classroom:

- One-to-one tutoring by a licensed teacher for pupils who are struggling with reading or mathematics, or both subjects;
- Instructional coaching provided by a licensed teacher to assist classroom teachers in improving instruction in math or reading and possess expertise in reducing the achievement gap; or
- Maintaining one teacher to eighteen students or two teachers to thirty students and providing professional development on small group instruction.

The District's seven Reading and four Math interventionists, as well as four instructional coaches, continue to focus on and implement the following AGR programs for the benefit of staff and students:

Reading

- Coaching of Universal Instruction for Staff
- Progress Monitoring for Data Purposes
- Intensive Interventions for Struggling Students
- Multi-Level System of Support for Students

Math

- Professional Development for Staff in the Eight Mathematical Practices
- Intensive Support for Students
- Screening of all Kindergarten and Grade 1 Students

Ms. Maney informed the committee that the District continues its commitment to Universal Instruction, implementing research-based best practices, and providing multiple practice opportunities for staff. Staff development in Universal Design for Learning (UDL) benefits all students at all levels of learning.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.