

School District of Rhinelander
Board of Education

Instruction and Accountability Committee

Monday, June 11, 2018

MEETING NOTES

Judy Conlin, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Committee Members Present: Mary Peterson and Judy Conlin
Committee Members Absent: Ann Munninghoff Eshelman

Also present were Superintendent Kelli Jacobi, School Board President Ron Counter, and Jamie Taylor of the Northwoods River News.

Chair/Superintendent Comments/Reports

Chair Conlin 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 March 12, 2018 Committee meeting were accepted.

Report/Discussion/Action Topic(s)

Update on the Grading Scale - Secondary Level

Teri Maney, Director of Instruction, gave a brief history of secondary grading and shared concerns that staff members have with the current grading scales (4-point scale and traditional percentage scale). Some secondary teachers were also present to respond to topics shared by Ms. Maney.

History

Prior to 2009, the secondary level grading included reporting of information related to behavior and work ethics, and students were given extra points for content work not related to the graded subject. There were inconsistent measurement methods, which varied from teacher to teacher even if they were teaching in the same content areas. Homework and assignment completion earned heavy points in the final grade and zeros outweighed the rest of the coursework accomplishments.

Current System

Currently, every department has eliminated the 4-point scale other than English 9/10, Global Studies, & U.S. History. Continuing the work on keeping the grading consistent throughout most of the subject areas and having a better understanding of the grading process by staff, parents, and students has helped to create consistency and promote student achievement.

Moving Forward

Training and a clear understanding of the grading scales, as well as consistency of grading throughout the subject areas are important factors for both staff and students toward student achievement and success. The implementation of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) will continue in units of study and common assessments and data analysis of the results will continue to be developed, as well as student generated assessment practices. Staff will utilize the FLEX schedule to offer intervention as needed, and common planning time to review student progress will be scheduled by staff so that data informed instructional decisions can be developed. Students will be given a better understanding of the grading process and what is expected of them for success in their studies. Grade level team meetings will be centered around student achievement and "troubleshooting" so that barriers for student success are eliminated. For those students having difficulty succeeding in the classroom setting, alternative strategies and options will be offered.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.