Curriculum and Instruction Committee  
September 28, 2016

In Attendance:

Tracy Baron       BOE Member  
Shannon Johnson   BOE Member  
Lisa Brady        Superintendent  
Douglas Berry     Assistant Superintendent  
Erin Vredenburgh  Director, Special Education

Discussion Items:

Update of “new” ELA and Math Standards

- NYSED has released a draft of new pk-12 ELA and Math Standards for public comment
- The new standards will replace the Common Core Standards
- CCSS were used as the foundation for committee work that resulted in new standards
- Changes to 60% of ELA standards
- Changes to 55% of Math standards
- Standards identify what students should be able to know and do at each grade level
- Goals include greater clarity and adjusting expectations across grade levels
- Aiming for implementation during ‘18-’19 school year

Update on MYP Authorization

- Authorization Visit - October 19, 20 and 21
- Team of three
- Review of documents, classroom visitations, interviews with students, teachers, parents, administration
- BOE interview 10/20 8:50-9:10 (tentative - awaiting confirmation - will update BOE asap)

15-16 Assessment Data Presentation

- Doug will do an overview of 3-8 assessment data at November 1st BOE Meeting
- Draft of presentation to be shared with Curriculum and Instruction Committee 10/26

Tri-State Consortium Visit

- March 1, 2 and 3
- Team from districts throughout region
- Focus on technology integration
- Develop Essential Questions
- Documents/Classroom Visits/Interviews
- Feedback and benchmarking for growth
• Supports the development of technology plan/strategic plan

Initiatives for 16-17

• MYP
  ○ Ongoing Curriculum Development Work
  ○ All teachers have received some training
  ○ 25 have completed full Level One training
  ○ Approx. 40 remaining
  ○ Alignment with Literacy in Content Area work - focus on questioning
    - “factual, conceptual, and debatable” questions

• Co-Teaching (K-12)
  ○ Summer PD for co-teaching teams
  ○ Follow Up PD and ongoing support
  ○ Administrative Focus - PD in summer during admin retreat and ongoing
  ○ Developing common language and understanding
  ○ Clearly stated “look fors” in observation process
  ○ Co-Taught classes are balanced to the greatest extent possible
  ○ Benefits for all students
    ■ Reduced teacher:student ratios
    ■ Greater opportunity for individualized/small group instruction
    ■ Modeling effective peer collaboration
    ■ Greater variety of teaching strategies/models
    ■ Collaborative Planning

• Block Scheduling (MS/HS)
  ○ Admin team is continuing to investigate this option
  ○ Teams from both MS and HS making site visits to schools with successful block scheduling models to explore instructional implications and impacts on learning

• Scheduling (Springhurst)
  ○ Springhurst is continuing its work with scheduling consultant exploring options to rethink Springhurst scheduling
  ○ Building would remain on split k-2 / 3-5 schedule due to busing $
  ○ Possible options being explored include shifting to a 6 day schedule and reworking “specials”

• Project Based Learning (Springhurst)
  ○ Expansion in use of project based learning
  ○ Professional Development time scheduled throughout year to support teachers
  ○ All grades will have at least one “project based” learning experience during the year
• Student Feedback (MS)
  ○ Middle school admin and teacher leaders are studying information they collected from students regarding their experience in classrooms as part of their “Culture and Climate” survey
  ○ Focusing on factors impacting student engagement and implications for classroom instruction

• Adolescent Learning Needs (MS)
  ○ Shared text experience “The Power of the Adolescent Brain”
  ○ Studying the unique learning needs of MS students and what it means for planning, instruction and learning

• Approaches to Learning/21st Century Survival Skills (HS)
  ○ The high school is continuing its focus on 21st century "survival" skills.
  ○ These include the following: collaboration, communication, critical thinking, creativity, adaptability, problem solving, analysis. In doing so, all instructional feedback is centered on these respective skills.
  ○ The high school is now transitioning to the more IB specific Approaches to Learning. This language is being integrated into all unit plans and daily lessons.

• Digital Citizenship (HS)
  ○ The social studies department created a formal curriculum for students in grades 9-12 around digital citizenship. In addition to being infused into social studies classes, the concepts will be supported across the disciplines and throughout the building.

Possible Topics for Future Discussion
- Physical Education 6-12
- Athletic Option
- Homework

Next Meeting - October 26th - 12:30