

Curriculum and Instruction Committee  
November 29, 2018

Attendance:

Tracy Baron	BOE Member
Rita Kennedy	BOE Member
Lisa Brady	Superintendent
Doug Berry	Asst. Superintendent

Discussion Items:

Innovative Classroom Initiative Update

- 28 teachers K-12 participating who have demonstrated and articulated a desire to engage in a reflective learning process, take risks and collaborate with colleagues
- First meeting was held in August with follow-ups once per month since then
- The goal of the Innovative Classroom Initiative is to support the continued development of student centered classrooms that address the needs of the whole child through an exploration of the following:
  - the role mindfulness can play in enhancing instruction
  - how classroom environments and physical space impact learning
  - The inquiry mindset and Project Based Learning
  - Meaningful use of technology
  - Authentic learning experiences that support globally engaged learners
- Participants are engaging in a variety of activities designed to challenge and push their thinking, encourage reflection, and support their growth as educators.
- At first session participants collaborated on the development of an essential question that guides the work:
  - "How can we foster an engaging environment where students are empowered, motivated and active learners?"
- The group has adopted the hashtag #dfinnovates and are collaborating with area colleagues engaged in similar work
- The group is engaging with two texts to date:
  - Shift This by Joy Kir
  - The Space by Robert Dillon and Rebecca Hare
- Topics already explored include:

- o Student Centered classrooms that support engagement and various learning styles
  - o Student Choice - process and product
  - o Homework Practices - Quantity, Assignment Types, Rebranding, Grading
    - Challenges (Enrichment)
    - Flipped Classroom
    - Choice Boards
    - Reflection Activities
  - o Mindfulness Breaks
  - o Station Teaching
  - o Technology Tools
- Each session is designed to model the instructional shifts being discussed

### Performance Standards Based Assessment Consortium

- Lisa attend the meeting for Superintendents hosted by Regent Judith Johnson to learn more about the work of the Consortium and how it might apply to OF
- The consortium is made up of NYC schools and has successfully lobbied the NYSED to remove the Regents Exam requirements at the HS level
- It is a two year "program" - with the performance task completed in grade 11 and 12
- No B schools are involved
- All schools participate in 4 required performance tasks - Math, English, SS and Sci
- Students have multiple opportunities to express their learning
- Assessments are scored externally
- Spec Ed teachers development accommodations for the "system"
- Interim assessments given in grade 9
- Lisa - "For a school like DFHS it would be difficult to do in conjunction with IB."
  - o "Might be more appropriate for schools with an AP program"
  - o "The effort is in the very early stages"
- Lisa will attend future meetings