

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS 9272

## STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

January 24, 2017

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The Gahanna-Jefferson Board of Education Student Learning and Achievement Committee met on January 24, 2017, at the Gahanna Jefferson Board Office, 160 S. Hamilton Road. President Beryl Piccolantonio called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	Mr. Matthew Campbell	Present
	Mrs. Jennifer Chrysler	Present
	Mrs. Daphne Moehring	Present
	Mr. Jason Phillips	Absent (Arrived at 7:08 p.m.)
	Mrs. Beryl Piccolantonio	Present

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:</b>	Steve Barrett Scott Schmidt Julio Valladares
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<b>GUESTS:</b>	Tia Holliman Kim Hughes Bobby Dodd Mallory Sribanditmongkol Chad Gregory Jamie Campbell	Brooke Dixon Logan Marks Kiersten Marks Cara Marks Derek Straiton Marcie Aiello
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<b>MEDIA PRESENT:</b>	None
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### STUDENT PROJECT PRESENTATION

1. **Opioid Math Model – Brooke Dixon (Senior) and Logan Marks (Sophomore)**
  - Mr. Barrett introduced two high school students, Brooke Dixon and Logan Marks, that came to share about the Opioid Model project they had completed in their Applied Mathematical Modeling class at the high school.

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- Applied Mathematical Modeling is a course that provides open-ended questions to students requiring them to analyze the problem, formulate a plan, research data, use mathematical modeling concepts to provide predictions, and then determine if their model was strong.
- Brooke and Logan shared 5 different problem situations they had worked through and explained how they determined their work was reliable. They shared further about how they took their findings and wrote a lengthy technical paper explaining the impact of their findings.
- Board Member Daphne Moehring shared that both of these students were a product of Gahanna's gifted program over the years and Board Member Jennifer Chrysler commented on the importance of students having the ability to write and articulate mathematical findings in a formal manner the way they did.
- Some students from the Mathematical Modeling course will be participating in the M3 Challenge where they will have an opportunity to earn scholarship money based on their work reading about a problem, diagnosing it and then sending the results to be graded by engineers and mathematics.
- When asked how this class is different than the regular courses, Brooke and Logan shared that it is more open-ended and that it is interesting to see 5 different groups working on the same project and finding totally different solutions that are all correct.

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. **High School Program of Study – Tia Holliman, High School Dean of Curriculum**
  - Tia Holliman presented on the high school's course of study and offerings. A handout was shared with a list of courses that are offered to students at the high school and Tia explained that many classes are grown from student interests that are shared by students and teachers. At the high school, they meet with students to learn more about their interests and guide them to coursework that will support those interests. They are intentional not to propel students into one pathway, rather provide opportunities for them to

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explore and test their interests, showing them the options that might be helpful for their next steps if they wish to continue on that path.

- At the high school, introductory courses are open to anyone of interest.
- A suggestion was made to continue building partnerships with area businesses who might provide better insights on the skill sets needed and opportunities that should be provided. Tia shared that Sharon Tomko and two Chamber members are working on setting up an education committee that will help to build those relationships.
- Board Member Daphne shared that she had recently compared our course catalog to that of other districts in the area and she feels we have strong offerings (ex. 19 art courses and 20 social studies courses).
- The Gahanna Middle Schools have begun working career planning into their programming and next year, health teachers will incorporate goal setting and interest surveys into their courses. The teams are working to get interest information sooner so that better supports and experiences can be provided to students earlier in their schooling.
- Additional information was shared regarding our Naviance software which is linked to colleges and careers and helps track student interests and experiences. This software is currently used with all high school students and will be started next year for use with 6th graders.
- There are plans to set up 8th grade visits to the career center and the district is working to improve the marketing and information sharing of the various programs offered at the high school and career centers.
- Board Member Daphne suggested having the career center share information during schedule pick up times to help show the student possibilities.
- Board Member Jennifer reiterated that writing, public speaking and the ability to make a case and communicate points and findings are critical skill sets. It was then shared that Writing Across the

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Curriculum has recently become a focus across the district and that the district is working to address writing needs on a global front.

- Discussion was had regarding the recent decision to take the Info. Tech. course off the required list of credits for graduation in Gahanna. It was shared that we were the only local district still providing this course and that the skills and experiences provided in this course were outdated.
- Discussion then focused on the need to ensure the basics of computer skill and navigation were intentionally included at the lower levels so that students entering the high school are equipped with the necessary skills and understanding of Google tools, presentation skills, spreadsheets, keyboarding, and online safety and ethics. It was shared that currently students down into even the elementary levels are working with Google tools and that there are Google trained personnel across the district supporting this work. Scott Schmidt shared there are plans to integrate keyboarding skills into the 2nd grade to support 3rd graders with their state testing requirements.

### 2. Mid-Year Review of Student Achievement (Math)

- The last discussion of the meeting concerned K-12 math programming. Mr. Bobby Dodd updated the committee on the ongoing conferences he is having with math teachers at the high school. The conversations include looking beyond letter grades, identifying individual student needs and specific interventions that are being used, as well as, the importance of teacher communication with parents.
- Board Member Jennifer shared that she has heard concerns from parents about the elementary math program, including frustrations with supporting students with their math homework. Discussion continued around the challenges of implementing a new program that addresses the current best practices and latest research in math instruction, as well as the need for ongoing support for teachers and parents. Board Member Jennifer made a request for more information and data about the implementation. She made a request to have data to back up any subsequent reports. At future

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Student Learning and Achievement meetings, the curriculum team will present on the new program, its implementation across schools, and teacher feedback on the process.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The special meeting of the Gahanna-Jefferson Board of Education adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

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President

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Treasurer