Meeting Minutes #1: Curriculum/ Special Education/ Technology Committee

July 18th 2021 - In - Person – 2:00pm

Attendance:
Crystal Hopkins
Allison Silverstein
Kathryn Weller-Demming

- Welcome/Check In

- Reviewed/ Discussed presentation made by the Equity, Curriculum and instruction department as well as Technology Department at Board Retreat. These are things that were presented that we will follow up on throughout our various meeting during this school year.
  - The Goals stated Presented by Dr. Morgan
    - Access to a robust inclusive curriculum
    - Increasing instructional repertoire
    - Increase students’ achievement with intervention and enrichment
    - Social emotional learning
  - Social Emotional
    - RU Behavior health
    - Training for school counselors on cultural responsive training
    - Building a curriculum for guidance counselors
  - Director Vargas
    - Professional development plan
      - On helping teachers identify students with challenges and ways to prevent loss
      - K-5 Teachers trained on the science of reading which is a collection of research tools and strategies used across curriculum.
    - In-Classroom tools/strategy
      - Reciprocal Teaching for 6-8th Grade a strategy used for reading comprehension it allows for the students to become the teacher.
      - The Socratic Seminar 9th- 12th Grade similar to the above encourages students to have robust conversation around the content.
    - New reading assessment tool Acadience Reading with focus on K-3 but also encompassing 4th – 6th Grade
    - The same tools/strategies will be used in social studies as well
    - Visual/Performing Arts Department: Revision on arts curriculum with arts integration and cultural responsiveness.
  - Director Goforth
    - Professional Development plan
      - Focus on instructional strategies
        - specifically on grades 4th & 5th
        - Math language and acquisition for K- 12
      - Science with focus on Global Issues curriculum revised over the next 2 years
    - STEM
      - Increase STEM offering
• we’ve acquired 3D printers
• have a relationship with MSU innovation and design, Liberty Science center etc.

  ○ Mr. Graber
  • Update to the bandwidth will occur in mid August
  • Potential merge of Exchange and Gmail
  • Creating a playbook with protocols and procedures with continuity of responsibilities
  • Make efforts to remove digital divide within Montclair.
  • Increasing 1:1 across the district
  • Adding staff member responsible instructional technology training as well as to support the move to 1:1 district.

2: Additional focus on

  1. Progress of the Special Education Audit
  2. Strong Social Studies/History Program
  3. Continuity of the AMISTAD Curriculum
  4. Return of the Writers Room

  - Reviewed Meeting dates/Time
  - Concluded