

Bemidji District Curriculum Advisory Committee

7:00-8:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 13, 2015
District Board Room, Downtown Education Center

Committee Members Attending: Ami Aalgaard, Vince Beyl, Erin Curran, Mary Fairbanks, Jim Hess, Drew Hildenbrand, Carol L. Johnson, Maura Johnson, Ann LongVoelkner, Amanda Mix, Kathy Palm, Ken Schreiber, Brian Stefanich, John Truedson, Kathy VanWert, Sonia Wadena, Janine Wahl

Meeting Minutes:

1. Breakfast started at 6:30 a.m.
2. Introductions—Members shared their names and where they work.
3. Kathy Presented the 2015 District & State Test Results. Bemidji Area Schools improved our 2015 MCA Reading, Math, and Science proficiency and outperformed the State in all three subjects. Kathy also shared the 2014-2015 AIMSweb results for kindergarten and first graders, showing growth in all areas but kindergarten Phoneme Segmentation. We also discussed the 2015 ACT Plus Writing results for last year's grade 11 students, who outperformed the state in every subject except writing. The 2015 ACT graduates did not perform as well as the 2014 graduates, compared to the State of Minnesota, but they were well above the national scores. Bemidji High Schools' Advanced Placement scores continue to be outstanding with their outperforming the State and Nation. BHS AP students had a passing rate of 76.1%, compared to the State at 65.8%, and the nation at 57.4%. In addition, BHS students completed a total of 332 College in the High School courses, 1,422 BSU college credits, and 168 Project Lead the Way credits through the University of Minnesota.
4. Kathy shared the 2015 Multiple Measurement Rating (MMR) Report, which compared the MMR since it first started in 2011. Kathy explained that the MMR percentages are based on the points earned out of 25 possible points for each category: Increasing Proficiency, Closing Achievement Gaps, Student Growth, and Increasing Graduation Rates. Minnesota Department of Education ranks Title I schools according to their MMR, and this year Solway Elementary is on Continuous Improvement and has to set aside 20% of their Title I budget for school improvement.
5. The 2014-2015 World's Best Workforce Report is posted on the web at: <http://www.bemidji.k12.mn.us/> under Curriculum & World's Best Workforce. Each member received a printed report, which was also sent to all district households October 9 through the *Buyline*. Kathy shared the 2014-2015 School successes.

We also looked at the 2015-2016 District Goals, which were approved at the School Board September 21, 2015, meeting. New this year are goals that align with the World's Best

Workforce including: Ready for Kindergarten, Reading Well by Third Grade, and College and Career Ready.

6. Kathy shared the following items for the 2015-2016 school year:
 - Lumberjack Career Academies – We will discuss these more at a future meeting.
 - The 2014-2016 Curriculum Review for Art, Health, Music, Physical Education, World Language is moving forward. Committee members need to have their curriculum outcomes, aligned with the State Standards and their curriculum purchase decisions to Kathy by May 1. The committee chairs will present at the May 10 District Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting. They will also present the new outcomes to the School Board in June.
 - Kathy shared the plans for the 2015-2016 Rural & Low-Income Grant projects for improving AYP & MMR. The projects include: Viewpoint Data Warehouse, a .44 FTE College and Career Specialist to work with students at BHS and the AEC to help them graduate on time, five Chrome book carts with 30 computers each to lessen the burden of testing on schools, and interventions for math and reading. We had a great discussion of the need for more technology and what BSU expects their students to know.
 - Kathy shared the State Testing Changes for 2015-2016. The State cut the College and Career Ready tests: Explore, Plan, and Compass. Districts will continue to offer the ACT Plus Writing to grade 11 students at no cost during a school day, but students are not required to take it. We also discussed the penalties for Pearson because of testing problems last year.
 - Kathy also shared the 2015-2016 State Testing Dates.
7. The District Curriculum Advisory Committee meets at 7:00 a.m. the second Tuesday every other month and additional times as needed. The following schedule is set for 2015-2016 at the District Board Room, Downtown Education Center:
 - Tuesday, December 8, 2015, 7:00 a.m.
 - Tuesday, February 9, 2016, 7:00 a.m.
 - Tuesday, May 10, 2016, 7:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m.