

Unified School District
District Site Council Meeting via Zoom
November 18, 2020

Present: Kelly Gentry, Valerie Gehrer, Heather Honas, Jill Day, Rachel Tompkins, Aron Dody, Jean Johnson, Angela Harris, Anita Mahanay, Shantel Sheets, Robin Frye, Amanda Vroman, Tracie Schroeder, Diedre Knight, Marla Goeckel, Christa Kraus, Kelly McDiffett, Amanda McDiffett, Dene Kaster, Cynthia Engle

Members

not present: Brooke Simonis

Welcome: Kelly G. opened the meeting 8:30 a.m.

Kelly welcomed all members. Although she was unable to attend, Brooke Simonis is a new member representing Council Grove.

This is the 16th year of DSC or (DAC) meetings!

Website www.usd417.net > District > District Site Council

Updated Membership List

Policy for Governing Academics

February 17th is the only other scheduled DSC meeting due COVID-19; will return to at least four meetings in 2021-22

Kansas Education System Accreditation

Review of Process and Expectations for this year – we have chosen to Pause for year 5. Will continue the work but no OVT meetings.

We are one of three districts that received a big – “Stop Violence” Department of Justice Grant – using Resilience and Trauma-Informed Practice. We will be working with ESSDACK for this grant. We will be using Nov. 30th Professional Development day to explain the grant to staff.

Subject Area Committee Reports

- Changes to the Long-Range Plan – we couldn’t have summer SACS due to COVID-19 restrictions. The only group that met were the Resilience Coaches, all via Zoom. Lengthy discussion on the proposed changes to the LRP and input from DSC members. It was proposed to switch Social Studies so it is studied before Science. This was added. Kelly G. will make the necessary changes and send it to the BOE for approval. Summary of changes:
 - Focus for 2020-21 is now K-5 Reading Intervention materials, Math diagnostic materials, IPS change to Xello and Resilience Coach training/implementation of resilience practices.
 - Changes to future summer SAC schedules
 - All core and elective subjects postponed by one year
 - Social Studies begins in 2023-24
 - Addition of two new Pathways “Teaching & Training” and “Health Science”
- Board of Regents has eliminated the Qualified Admissions Curriculum requirement. There is now only the Kansas Scholars curriculum recommendation beginning with the graduating class of 2021. KS Scholars Curriculum is **Recommended But Not Required**: To best prepare for college level courses KS Scholars recommends (4) English, (4) Math (3) Social Science (3) Science and (2) Foreign Language (same language) at the high school level.

Kelly G also showed us all the changes the colleges made for qualified admissions.

ESU, PSU, FHSU & WSU:

- ACT 21+ (SAT 1060) **or** Cumulative GPA 2.25+
- Cumulative GPA 2.0+ for College Credit earned in High School

K-State:

- ACT 21+ (SAT 1060) **or** GPA 3.25+
- Cumulative GPA 2.0+ for College Credit earned in High School

KU:

- ACT 21+ (SAT 1060) **and** Cumulative GPA 3.25+ or ACT 24+ (SAT 1160) **and** Cumulative GPA 3.0+
- Cumulative GPA 2.0+ for College Credit earned in High School
- *KU is making an exception this year due to the pandemic and allowing Test Optional if GPA is at least 3.4*

- **English Language Arts:** Began Interest-based English III this year – who is scheduled in the different sections is based on either 4 year college-prep vs tech college. This is working extremely well. Same standards, different activities. Dyslexia requirements have not been put on hold by the state. All licensed elementary and ELA teachers must have six hrs of training on Dyslexia by the end of 2020-21 school year. Our teachers finished this over the summer. The K-5 Textbook Pilot has been moved to 21-20. We learned from our fall data that not being in school in spring has put our K-2 students at a disadvantage.
- **Math:** Spring also showed gaps for grade levels 1-5 in math. We purchased a program to help teachers identify the gaps and plan for lessons to address them. We began Eureka Math with the Sophomore class of 2023. We will be watching their state assessment data, although many variables will be affecting their performance.
- **Science:** This year's senior class is the first class to have gone through the entire new required science sequence: Integrated Physics > Integrated Chemistry > Integrated Biology. As seniors they can now choose electives such as Anatomy & Physiology, Advanced Physics or several different VPL (Edgenuity) science courses. Began the Health Science Pathway this fall, which includes the CNA certification. Many interested students in this Pathway.
- **Social Studies:** New Classroom-Based State Assessment will begin in 21-22. Our SS teachers do need training on this. Shantel was able to do the training in Hutchinson last spring before the lockdown. Kelly G. will look for training opportunities.
- **Social Emotional Learning and Individual Plans of Study:** New Xello for grades 6-12 for individual plans of study. This is the updated version of Career Cruising. For social emotional learning, we are adding two new Kansans Can competencies for grades 7-12.
- **Electives:** New elective courses this year include Teaching as a Career, Teaching Internship, and 31 new Edgenuity courses. The new Edgenuity courses are in the cluster areas of Health Care, Engineering, Public Service, Law Enforcement, Hospitality and Tourism, Architecture & Construction, Transportation, and Computer Science.

Building Communication

CGES – We have four brand new teachers this year, they are doing a great job. Four classrooms had to be moved to make more room for social distancing. We are seeing kids at home get excited when using Google Meet. Kudos to the teachers/staff and how they have stepped-up with all the changes.

PHES – Awesome Veteran's Day program even with the social distancing. Two of our classrooms had to eat lunch in the classroom while quarantined and the conversations that they have had has been amazing. Team work of the staff has been amazing. Getting ready for construction on office. Two babies coming to add to the PHES community and three at CGES as well!

CGJH/HS – It's been a unique time. Partway through September we had to also move furniture and classrooms to spread out. Books talks are going well. Finished the volleyball and the football season. Started basketball season but will be on hold for awhile. Had a mock presidential election to get kids involved. Martha has books for breaks for check-out. Love having lunch in the classrooms. Ending first trimester two days early so we can start second trimester before the kids go to remote learning. Commend the administrative team for moving up the start of 2nd trimester to help get kids ready to go online.

Special Education – Students and teachers are adapting. Have had people step up to substitute. Not giving up, but helping to problem solve.

Title/MTSS, ESL – Commend Nichole and Stacy for getting teachers and students supplies that they need for core and interventions. We have a couple of new ESL students.

Information to/From Non-School Members

Tri County Telephone received a grant for phone/internet service to Alta Vista. It is free to sign-up for the TCT service. Proud of you all. Appreciate what you all are doing. Jean said retirement has been busy in helping with grandkids. Dwight has a Facebook page for the Library. Pizza Hut has deliveries to Dwight corner on Tuesday and that is nice for us.

Board of Education Report – Grateful for a supportive staff. Keep focusing on the positives!

Next Meeting Date February 17th at 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.