

## **SIT Meeting Minutes October 2, 2017**

ATTENDEES: Carliss Jackson, leading for Pam Djigounian (based on Djigounian's notes); Francesca Gantt, Amie Aydlett, Gloria Diaz, Cris Fields, Colleen Lyston, Lykisa McCoy, Jordon Murdoch, Kristen Rallis, Denise Thomas, Parent John Ratcliffe, Parent Kevin Lighty (NOT ATTENDING: Chairman Pam Djigounian, Laura Berry)

### **Curriculum Support Classes (2)**

- Some students have 2 classes. This is the 2nd year of having Curriculum Support. Gantt said it is for specific students to meet IEP goals. They get regular ed services, and curriculum support is based on the educational needs of the students; if an IEP team needs to convene before the annual review, it can be.

Lyston: said that a teacher should tell her if they see a student needs more support.

### **Auditorium Doors Locked**

- Doors will be locked soon; Gantt said it was being worked on based on Code 700 requirement.

### **Reading in Class**

- AR reading in class if a student finishes early such as 5 minutes early is permissible but any longer and it eats into the instructional time.
- Gantt said if we are teaching bell to bell; 15 to 20 minutes of time left ; we are sharing best practices, looking at differentiation piece, and looking at information text. AR should not be punitive, I am not against silent sustained reading. Fields thought the novel reading should be in the classroom and learning to annotate with the added informational text.

### **Cub Focus**

- Sheets have been sent out for Cub Focus, and it starts tomorrow, Tuesday, 10/3/17.
- Gantt referred to Fields: it should be more structured and connected to what is being taught in class; make-up assignments, weak on skills, ---teachers should fill out form. MTSS form has been emailed out----and this is a step to help students.

### **MTSS “Multi-Tier Support Services” for Students**

- McCoy: you should have 3 interventions to be referred (Cub Focus is one intervention, you cannot use it as “sent to Cub Focus three times”)
- Rallis: if a student is in bottom 20% or haven't turned in their work;
- Fields: when kids show up on “the dashboard”---- the grades need to correlate with the standards

### **First Instructional Round**

- Mrs. Binner has volunteered for 1st Instructional Round---- to get peer feedback--- need a date; with a pre-observation, the round and then meet after school to discuss what you saw to share best practices; Rallis suggested that a Google doc/form be used to help give feedback and volunteered for an Instructional Round/Observation. McCoy: Gantt would

expect every teacher to do it during their planning. She's not opposed to anything. Gantt we could do a sign-up sheet for equal distribution of individuals between classes. Rallis and Binner will suggest a date before the Christmas holiday. Lyston suggested doing "CUBS" so everybody could see it.

### **County Attendance Policy Change**

- Gantt said we had a student participating in 4-H and she looked at the policy who was excused absence from being at school, but originally they were counted as being here at the school. Gantt was worried about the safety issue of a student not being on campus but our school saying they were in attendance.
- Thomas asked: is there anything that can be done about a student who tells everyone she was on a vacation trip and then come back with a sick note. Gantt will look into policy for kids not sick more than 3 days.
- Gantt: there is no gateway now for middle school, so we have a harder time holding students accountable.
- Diaz: in the past the SIT has served as an attendance policy committee; in 2016-2017 we had two 8th Graders; Gantt may go to the teachers who teach the student because they know the most about the student

### **4 Day Late Work Grace Period**

- Is it working? Thomas/Rallis: say it's still a problem, but Rallis sees some students (particularly 8th Graders); 10 points off each day until 4th day of 60% as the highest grade.
- Diaz: I end up reminding them every time. I like the idea of having a backup, but on the other hand, where is the responsibility? Gantt said our goal is to be the bridge between the Intermediate and the high school. We have to baby-step them somewhere. It's probably a little early to see how the students are performing. Your best bet would be to look at the current 8th Grade.
- Parent Ratcliffe: if there are clear, extenuating circumstances then allow...
- McCoy: it can get confusing because the student can get behind---if I decide to go over it. The due date, the day I grade it and then when I hand the papers back.
- Discussion on grading policy when it comes to recording a zero. Gantt said 7th Grade was trying to figure out ---- Gantt said she thinks we should give students a chance to turn in something. 8th Grade wanted a no late work policy.
- TAKE BACK TO TEAMS: it's up for discussion as a school: (1) school wide versus individual teacher policy---what do we need? ---can discuss at PLC and will follow-up at next SIT meeting**

### **Silent Lunch and Assigning Consequences for Behavior and Expectations**

- Yes for behavior but not for turning in a piece of paper

**NEXT MEETING: Monday, November 6, 2017 3:15 p.m., CMS Media Center**