

EAST WASHINGTON SCHOOL CORPORATION – SCHOOL BOARD NOTES
MAY 28, 2015

Members Present

Linda McClellan, President
David Churchman, Vice President
Sue Jane Miller, Secretary
Theresa Gottbrath, Member
Hector Nale, Member

Members Absent

Guests

OFFICIAL GUESTS:

Mr. Steve Darnell, Superintendent
Mr. Greg Hopkins, Trans Director/Asst. to Superintendent
Mr. Darin Farris, HS Principal
Mrs. Amber Sater, MS Principal
Mrs. Debbie Esarey, ES Principal

Pledge of Allegiance

President Linda McClellan led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence was observed. President Linda McClellan called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Policy and Procedures

- A. Approval of Second Reading of Policy 5136
Superintendent Darnell recommended that the Board approve the second reading of Policy 5136. After due consideration, the same was approved.
Motion: David Churchman, Seconded: Sue Jane Miller, Vote: 5-0
- B. Review of Staff Survey Results

Principals Darrin Farris, Amber Sater and Debbie Esarey reviewed results from the staff survey requested from the Board in April. Findings as reported are included:

Eastern High School
May 28, 2015



Staff needs identified by staff survey

- 31 EHS staff members participated in the survey

Do Professional Learning Communities work within the high school?

- Strongly Agree/Agree: 32% (10 staff members)
- Neither Agree or Disagree: 19% (6 staff members)
- Strongly Disagree/Disagree: 39% (12 staff members)
- N/A: 10% (3 staff members)

I feel supported by the school administration.

- Strongly Agree/Agree: 71% (22 staff members)
- Neither Agree or Disagree: 6% (2 staff members)
- Strongly Disagree/Disagree: 23% (7 staff members)
- N/A: 0% (0 staff members)

I feel professional development is provided for my position.

- Strongly Agree/Agree: 26% (8 staff members)
- Neither Agree or Disagree: 32% (10 staff members)
- Strongly Disagree/Disagree: 40% (12 staff members)
- N/A: 3% (1 staff members)

What is not Working?

- Mastery Connect – 5 of 31 participants felt Mastery Connect was not working.
- Professional Learning Communities (PLC's) – 7 of 31 participants felt PLC's were not working or needed to be modified to benefit students and staff at EHS.
- Cell Phones – 4 of 31 participants believe the wireless communication / cell phone policy was too strict.
- Finances / Money – 2 of 31 participants commented about the financial state of our corporation.
- Teamwork – 2 of 31 participants do not believe staff members work as a team.

What is Working?

- Communication – 3 of 31 participants believe communication between administration and teachers is working.
- Professional Learning Communities (PLC's) / Collaboration – 7 of 31 participants believe PLC's are working or with some adjustment could be very beneficial.
- Mastery Connect – 4 of 31 felt that Mastery Connect is working at the high school.

- Teamwork – 2 of 31 participants believe the staff works as a team.
- Administration – 3 of 31 feel supported by EHS administration.

Solutions/Plan for Identified Needs from Survey

- Provide Mastery Connect training/re-training for teachers (Summer, next Fall).
- PLC's:
 - This school year: teams of teachers met once per week
 - Next school year: departments will meet 1 or 2 times per month.
 - Not as many teachers teaching the same course as another teacher (English, Social Studies, Math, Science)
 - Not many common plan periods for teachers
- Mastery Connect / Common Formative Assessments (CFA's)
 - Reduce number of CFA's
 - This school year: students took one CFA each week
 - Next school year: students will take a CFA every other week or 3 times per grading period (may be different for each department)
 - Designate weeks each department will give CFA {Example: Week 1 (Math, Science, Spanish, Health) Week 2 (English, Social Studies, Electives)}
- Cell Phone / Wireless Communication Policy
 - changed policy for next year

**East Washington Middle School
May 28, 2015**



Staff needs identified by staff survey

- 25 EWMS staff members participated in the survey

Do Professional Learning Communities work within the middle school?

- Strongly Agree/Agree: 44% (11 staff members)
- Neither Agree or Disagree: 16% (4 staff members)
- Strongly Disagree/Disagree: 40% (10 staff members)
- N/A: 0% (0 staff members)

I feel supported by the school administration.

- Strongly Agree/Agree: 80% (20 staff members)
- Neither Agree or Disagree: 12% (3 staff members)
- Strongly Disagree/Disagree: 8% (2 staff members)
- N/A: 0% (0 staff members)

I feel professional development is provided for my position.

- Strongly Agree/Agree: 84% (21 staff members)
- Neither Agree or Disagree: 4% (1 staff members)
- Strongly Disagree/Disagree: 8% (2 staff members)
- N/A: 4% (1 staff members)

Professional Development Suggestions

#	Out of	
8	25	Differentiated Instruction
		<i>Notes: This was also recommended by the AdvancED team.</i>
		<i>Action Plan: Small group meetings on DOK and differentiation, ASCD Conference on Differentiated Instruction, Professional Development with Bill Reed</i>
8	25	N/A or “Great Job”
		<i>Notes:</i>
		<i>Action Plan:</i>
5	25	Technology or Smart Board Training
		<i>Notes:</i>
		<i>Action Plan: Mr. Balentine will be providing workshops this summer.</i>
2	25	Classroom Management
		<i>Notes:</i>
		<i>Action Plan:</i>
2	25	Content Specific PD
		<i>Notes: One of the two specifically mentioned science.</i>
		<i>Action Plan: Science teacher will receive curriculum mapping days at the beginning of the 15-16 school year.</i>

What is not Working?

#	Out of	
7	25	Professional Learning Communities
		<i>Notes: 6 of the 7 specifically linked their dislike of PLCs to teaching different classes this past school year. Only 3 mentioned Mastery Connect. A total of 9 teachers mentioned having to teach different classes.</i>
		<i>Action Plan: Seventh and eighth grade teachers have already been moved back to what they taught prior to PLCs.</i>
7	25	Teacher/ Student Ratio or Needing More Aids
		<i>Notes: We need another special education teacher.</i>
		<i>Action Plan: I changed Ms. Combs schedule for next year in hopes of helping.</i>
3	25	More Technology Staff
		<i>Notes: Several mentioned what a great job Mr. Balentine does throughout the survey. They just feel that he is overworked.</i>
		<i>Action Plan:</i>

Mentioned by one person: Teacher Leave Time, Board Member at Faculty Meeting, Student Accountability with ISTEP+, Scheduling Based on Rotations, Money for PD

What is Working?

#	Out of	
8	25	Mastery Connect
5	25	Professional Learning Communities
5	25	Morning Remediation
5	25	The Staff
4	25	The Technology Staff (Specifically Mr. Balentine)
3	25	The Building Administration

Mentioned by one person: The High Ability Program (Greg Hopkins), Ability Grouping in Classrooms, Wage Increases, Custodial Staff, Curriculum Mapping

East Washington Elementary School
May 28, 2015



Staff needs identified by staff survey:

- 34 staff members participated in the survey.

Identified Survey Needs
What is not Working?

- Mastery Connect – 5 out of 34 participants felt Mastery Connect was not working.
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) – 4 out of 34 participants felt that PLCs were not working.
- Testing too much – 5 out of 34 participants felt they were testing too much.
- Class Sizes – 4 out of 34 participants felt something should be done about the class sizes especially in 3rd and 4th grades.
- Lack of materials/spending too much of their own money – 3 out of 34 felt the lack of materials or having to buy materials using their own money was a problem.

What is Working?

- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) – 4 out of 34 felt the PLCs were useful in our school.
- Response to Instruction (RtI) – 5 out of 34 felt that RtI is essential for our students and works well in our school.
- Literacy – 5 out of 35 feel that our Literacy program is beneficial to our students and our school.
- Mastery Connect – 1 participant feels that Mastery Connect works in our school.

Solutions for Identified Needs from Survey

- Professional Development is essential in helping teachers to utilize Mastery Connect to its fullest.

Professional Development

- May 28th, 10:00 – 11:00 – Three middle school teachers are presenting to the elementary teachers how Mastery Connect is utilized at the middle school. These teachers are: Laura Purlee, Stacy Zink and Carla Coahran.
- August 2015 – Ms Sater has volunteered to hold PD for the elementary staff on Mastery Connect. This training will be the exact training that the middle and high schools received in the fall of 2014.
- PLCs are not new to the elementary staff. We began holding monthly collaboration meetings in the 2009 – 2010 school year to discuss student achievement and data. We had great success with this process. Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year the elementary teachers will begin attending monthly PLC/Collaboration meetings instead of weekly meetings. We will continue with the same agenda; student achievement and data driven instruction.
- I believe the above “tweaks” will also satisfy our corrections for AdvancEd in the areas of Differentiation and Rti (Response to Instruction).

Individual Board members asked questions during individual presentations and asked for clarification about single comments expressed by building staff.

A motion was made to approve the three plans as presented by the building Principals.

After due consideration, the same was approved.

Motion: David Churchman, Seconded: Hector Nale, Vote: 5-0

Superintendent Information

Items by the Board/Late Items

Public Comments

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m. The next regular School Board Meeting is Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion: David Churchman, Seconded: Hector Nale, Vote: 5-0

NOTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD AT THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING.