

**Beaver Dam Unified School District
Board of Education Minutes**

Accountability Committee Meeting

August 17, 2015

A meeting of the Accountability Committee of the Beaver Dam Unified School District Board of Education was held on the above date at the Educational Service Center at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: Bev Beal-Loeck, Marge Jorgensen, John Kraus, Jr., Laura Lerwick, Lisa Panzer, Chad Prieve, Gary Spielman, and Joanne Tyjeski. Administration present: Bob Avery, Director of Business Services, Mark DiStefano, High School Principal, Sandra Garbowicz, Director of Teaching and Learning, and Jesse Peters, Prairie View Elementary School Principal.

Mr. Peters and Ms. Garbowicz updated the committee on changes in the Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) law, now called Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) Act, and how it impacts programming in the District. AGR Act allows districts to continue to receive funding for this program even if they cannot or do not maintain the class size reduction requirements built into SAGE. New AGR differs from the existing SAGE by allowing districts the flexibility to meet the obligations in the contract by using one of these three strategies: a) one-to-one tutoring provided by a licensed teacher, b) instructional coaching for teachers provided by a licensed teacher; or c) maintaining 18:1 or 30:2 classroom ratios and providing professional development on small group and group instruction. A school might implement a combination of these strategies in classroom K-3.

Due to the large enrollment numbers, the kindergarten class at Washington Elementary School cannot continue to offer class sizes of 18:1 unless six children are assigned to schools other than their neighborhood school. The families for all six children want to attend Washington Elementary. This presents an opportunity for the district to employ an alternative service model under AGR Act and keep these children in their neighborhood school. The district will employ the instructional coaching for teachers provided by a licensed teacher model at Washington for its kindergarten class only. At this point, it is expected that class sizes will be 21:1 for kindergarten classes at Washington Elementary.

The next Accountability Committee meeting will be September 21st.

Minutes submitted by Bev Beal-Loeck, Committee Chair.