Beaver Dam Unified School District Board of Education Minutes

Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting

February 15, 2021

A meeting of the Teaching and Learning Committee of the Board of Education was held on the above date at the Educational Service Center at 5:30 p.m. Board committee members present: John Kraus, Jr., Lisa Panzer, and Gary Spielman.

Mr. Meyer, Director of Teaching and Learning, explained that schools are collaboratively developing collective commitments as part of the district's implementation of the professional learning community philosophy. This is part of the foundation on which annual and daily work is built. The commitments clarify priorities, sharpens focus for everyone in the school, and sets the tone and direction for the school. They also define and guide behavior to achieve desired success. He reviewed samples and shared the process of developing commitments.

Mr. Meyer reported the Middle School is currently evaluating modifications to their course offerings and schedule to ensure that they support students' needs. The school team is reviewing the 2022-2023 schedule. The adjustments to the 2021-22 schedule include offering physical education all year rather than by semester, which will return Project Lead the Way (PLTW) courses to their original 9-week schedule. PLTW Computer Science for Innovation/Apps Creators will become an elective option for 7th and 8th grade students rather than a required course. Science and Social Studies will remain in an 85-minute block as it is this year.

Mr. Meyer reviewed a summary of English Language Learning (ELL) program recommendations that are a result of an independent programming review. The recommendations will be utilized to plan forward to better meet the needs of students. The ELL Review Team may meet periodically to receive continual feedback as the recommendations move toward implementation.

Mr. Meyer provided the Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) semester report. Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln Elementary schools are the district's AGR schools. He provided background on the goal and requirements of AGR. He reviewed the 2020-2021 school plans from each AGR school, along with the data reports.

The committee will not meet in March due to the Board workshop. The next meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2021.