

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

Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting

April 27, 2020

A meeting of the Teaching and Learning Committee of the Board of Education was held virtually on the above date at the Educational Service Center at 5:30 p.m. Board committee members present: Tony Klatt, Laura Lerwick, Chad Prieve, and Joanne Tyjeski.

Dr. David, Director of Teaching and Learning, provided an update on the English Language Arts review. The review has been temporarily delayed, but will move forward over the summer. The units will be ready to pilot in the fall. Information on a formal proposal for the High School for the 2021-2022 school year will be provided in June.

Dr. White, 4K Coordinator/District Communications Officer, and Ms. Pivonka, Director of Student Services, provided an update on 4-year old kindergarten and special education services for the 2020-2021 school year. They reviewed projected enrollments, placement numbers, and staffing needs. The number of special education students continues to rise, creating the need for additional district support. An additional school-based site for Early Childhood and 4K is being considered at Wilson Elementary School. This will allow for more manageable class sizes at all sites and provide more options for families and students.

Dr. White reviewed a draft of the district's new equity statement. She explained that the DPI will soon require districts to have equity statements. The committee felt the statement accurately reflected the district's equity beliefs. The equity statement will be presented for adoption at the May regular board meeting.

Dr. David presented information on grading for the second semester. The elementary schools will use their existing report card format to show 3rd quarter learning through March 13 and will provide a narrative document for Digital Distance Learning (DDL). Teachers will also conduct phone or online parent teacher conferences. The Middle School will continue with Standards Referenced Grading. Students will not be penalized if there is not enough evidence to support a grade. Information was provided on Middle School DDL efforts and the process for contacting students who are not engaging. The High School will offer students the option to select the current grading system or a pass/incomplete system for semester 2. Students will have until late May or early June to decide on an option and will have until the start of the fall semester to move incomplete work to a grade or pass. Students in Dual Credit/College Credit in High School/Start College Now classes may opt for a pass/incomplete at the High School; however, the college awarding these credits may require a traditional letter grade. Grade 8 students taking high school courses will have the option to receive a letter grade or pass/incomplete. This will be presented to the board for adoption at the May regular board meeting.

Dr. David, Ms. Pivonka, and Mr. Peters, District Assessment and Technology Officer, presented a recommendation on diploma pathways from the At-Risk Study Committee. They reviewed the work of the committee, which was part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) grant. The

recommendation aligns with the district's strategic plan. They reviewed the Middle School alternative education option which includes implementing a Smaller Learning Community at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year to ease the transition into 6th grade for select students. The recommendation also includes multiple pathways to graduate with one graduation ceremony for all students. They explained each pathway: Earn the 24 required BDUSD credits, which is the current practice; Earn a certificate of attendance and completion, which is currently in practice; Earn 16 BDUSD credits, which includes 15 required WI credits plus personal finance and employability; Complete a set of Competency Based Requirements, implementation is targeted for the 2022-23 school year after additional research and planning; Complete a set of Competency Based requirements in conjunction with GED Option 2, implementation is targeted for 2022-23 to allow time to apply to the DPI for authorization and determine competency requirements. The committee provided feedback for the Study Committee to consider. A final recommendation will be presented to the full board in the future.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 18.