Beaver Dam Unified School District Board of Education Minutes

Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting

May 18, 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 Professional Learning and Development Opportunities (PLaDO). Teachers are required to complete 24 hours of PLaDo, which is embedded into their contract. Over 300 sessions were offered last year, which included conferences and online options through other providers. There is flexibility in how teachers can gain professional development. Sessions are typically offered the first week in June, but given the current situation the entire month of June will be open for those who need to complete hours for 2019-2020 or for those who want to begin completing hours for 2020-2021. Two platforms have been added for professional development offerings.

Dr. David and Ms. Pivonka, Director of Student Services, and Jesse Peters, reported on Alternative Education Programming and Diploma Pathways. They reviewed the federal notification regarding DSLA graduation rates and Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requirements. The At-Risk Committee decided to take time next year to take a better inventory of current district requirements and practices and be very deliberate with 16 and 24 credit requirements, one diploma, and one graduation ceremony. The Middle School will move forward with the Smaller Learning Community program. The Committee will pause the process to look deeper at grade 6-12 at-risk programming to ensure a cohesive program within the school district. Pathways for CTE programs will be aligned and delineated above and beyond the at-risk students. Committee suggested taking time to consider the effect of one graduation ceremony on DSLA students. Updates will be provided throughout next year.

Dr. David provided an update on the English Language Learners (ELL) Program. CESA 2 offers an evaluation process, which began prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. They will resume the evaluation with online surveys and telephone interviews. The evaluation should be completed by the end of July and will provide information on how to move forward with ELL.

Ms. Jansma, Summer School Coordinator and Elementary Associate Principal, provided a Summer School update. The delivery model and schedule have changed due to current circumstances. Summer School will run Monday through Friday from July 6-31 and be offered through Google Classroom. Devices will be available for grades K-12 and one device will be offered per family. There will be no fee for Summer School. If possible, a face-to-face booster will be offered in August for at-risk students. The High School will break summer learning into phases, with offerings in June for credit recovery and targeting incompletes from semester 2. They will offer summer school sessions from July 6-31 using the Wisconsin Virtual Academy and Google Classroom platforms. DSLA will offer credit recovery in June using virtual learning. Meals will continue to be provided throughout the summer.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for June 15.