

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

Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting

June 15, 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: John Kraus, Jr., Laura Lerwick, Lisa Panzer, and Gary Spielman.

Ms. Panzer was selected to serve as the Committee Chair.

Dr. David, Director of Teaching and Learning, provided an update on the Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) Program. Due to no spring testing, participating schools, Lincoln, Jefferson, and Washington Elementary Schools, submitted a report to the DPI efforts to provide curriculum and resources during distance learning. A 5-year contract was submitted for Washington Elementary School to remain an AGR school.

Dr. David provided an update on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) grant, which included improving graduation rates at the Don Smith Learning Academy (DSL A). A district Study Team spent this year evaluating and working to improve graduation rates at the DSL A, evaluating grade 6-12 At-Risk programming, identifying credit deficient students, analyzing data, evaluating school culture and climate, and engaging Middle School, High School, and DSL A students. The report to the DPI is due at the end of June, however the grant funding will be extended another full year due to the in-person learning disruption caused by COVID-19.

Dr. David reported on the results of a Digital Distance Learning (DDL) staff survey. The survey asked about direct instruction and the comfort level of staff teaching via DDL. The data will be used to review and improve DDL and also identify possible professional development opportunities.

Dr. David shared the progress of the At-Risk Pathways to Graduation. She highlighted the work of the committee and what has been implemented. The team will continue to work throughout the summer. The committee is considering providing 1 diploma for graduates versus the 2 that is current practice. The goal is to create alternate ways for students who are At-Risk to earn credit for school. One option is for students to earn credit in the workplace in areas of core curriculum. The High School has been blending classes and will look at more opportunities for blending courses. The Middle School had integrated coursework for 6th grade student to make the curriculum more fluid. The committee is considering the possibility of an alternate school in DSL A, however in the future it could be a pathway to graduation. Benchmarks will need to be identified and curriculum standards to achieve the benchmark for workplace credit. The DPI has to approve any new options. Board members were invited to participate in the committee to hear more and offer viewpoints.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for July 20.