



WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Wake County Board of Education Student Achievement Committee

October 10, 2013

3:00 pm

Board Conference Room, Crossroads I
Christine Kushner, Committee Chair

PURPOSE: To address Student Achievement issues.

OUTCOMES: By the end of the meeting, Committee Members will have:

- An opportunity to review and approve minutes for September SAC meeting
- An update on *Read to Achieve*
- A review of K-12 Literacy programs/initiatives in the district

Board Members Present		Staff Present	
Christine Kushner	Susan Evans	Cathy Moore	Marvin Connelly
Bill Fletcher	Kevin Hill	Todd Wirt	John Williams
Jim Martin		James Overman	Sharon Collins
		Brian Pittman	Clinton Robinson
TOPIC		WHO	TIME
Set up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments • Agenda • Desired outcomes 		Christine Kushner	5
Mrs. Kushner called the meeting called to order at 3:04 pm and asked Mrs. Evans and Dr. Martin to serve to make a quorum.			
Review and Approve September minutes for Student Achievement Committee		Christine Kushner	5
The September 12th minutes were approved			
Update on <i>Read to Achieve</i> district work/DPI direction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on Improving K-3 literacy PowerPoint presentation (included in the minutes) • Staff advocates to not begin the <i>Read to Achieve</i> program in year round schools until 2015-2016. • 3 benchmarking periods each year. 		Todd Wirt James Overman	45

- Time required of teachers will lessen as teachers learn the system.
- Quarterly level performance data provided on students.
- WAKE Up and Read Community collaboration to focus on strategies in place from birth to graduation, in support of literacy.
- mClass report provides parents tools to work with at home and for teachers in the classroom. This is different from what has been used in past.
- Report is sent in English and Spanish at present. 5 more languages to be added.
- Parent conferences will occur to address any concerns not addressed with mClass.
- mClass is an Amplify product – DPI has contract.
- Portfolio can be used to demonstrate mastery or proficiency with students previously be retained multiple time, ie, ESL students and students with disabilities.
- Areas for students to master can be addressed while moving towards the next grade curriculum.
- 4th grade material can be used to develop the literacy skills.
- A customized literacy block can be used to split students out into the needed area.
- mClass will identify students with underlying problems. Programs and strategies are now being used with Pre K.
- In 2011-2012 approximately 2493 3rd grade students identified at not reading at grade level.
- Read to Achieve implementation team includes staff across Central Services departments and school level staff members

Review of K-12 Literacy programs/initiatives	Todd Wirt James Overman Brian Pittman John Williams	45
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- RtI is being aligned with literacy programs.
- Parents of rising 3rd graders have been sent a letter to inform them of resources.
- Middle school program, PathDriver being used by 22 schools this year, will be in all schools next year.
- Benchmarks and artifacts are established over time and teachers are able to listen to past recordings to aid in determining future assessments.
- Non-computer oriented assessments are available on line to students not able to test by computer.
- Have the right needs matched up with the right how
- Working to identify which programs provide us with measurable improvements
- How are we investing in our best resources-teachers-PD
- Making the Reading Profile Card a part of the enrollment process to have immediate response instead of 3-4 months into the year.
- Car Quest is a corporate sponsor in the rewards program
- Staff reviewing strategies being used now to address 6th grade literacy drop.
- High school uses programs and tools borrowed from the lower grades.
- EVASS used to identify a set of interventions.
- Students are targeted for intervention.

- Student Support Services provides staffing.
- Need consistency of course recommendations
- PD and support needed for reading in the content
- Common Core Standards address writing in the classroom through writing standards.
- Through RtI and the Effective Teacher Training, opportunities are created for teachers to engage students and create relationships to discover what may be impeding their learning.
- RtI teams looks at the whole child, not just instructional. Need expressed to have all department teams trained to operate this way and not look at the child in isolation
- In the past Dr. Connelly used one time funding to address the counseling need. Will need to repurpose funds going forward.
- Staff is looking closely at how current time is being used and its effectiveness. Legislature is looking at making it research based effectiveness.
- Proficiency is defined by passing a minimum threshold.

Closure and next steps	Christine Kushner	5
Meeting adjourned at 4:47 pm.		

Next Student Achievement Committee Meeting Scheduled: November 14, 2013