

Ichabod Crane CSD  
Board of Education Academic Committee  
March 3, 2020

Present: Superintendent Jason Thomson, Assistant Superintendent Suzanne Guntlow  
Board members: Regina Rose, Elizabeth Phillips

Absent: Board Member Susan Ramos

I Riders' Pathway to Success

Asst. Superintendent Guntlow reported on the work of the K-8 and 7-12 District team meetings. Teams are working collaboratively together and making good use of data to inform instruction and identify areas which need to be addressed. Common assessments are given quarterly, and although still works in progress, these assessments are providing much useful data. Teachers are finding this work to be very fruitful and effective in identifying specific areas of need, and for developing strategies to address those needs.

II 2019-2-2- Marking Period Two Data Report

The committee reviewed several Data Tables:

**Table I** – Projected Graduation Rates.

2018-2019 graduation rate was 94.9%. The class of 2020 is currently on target, and projected to exceed its goal of 95%. Much of this success is credited to the work being done to make use of the data, and interventions such as the structured study halls.

**Table 2a** – High School Course Failures.

Failure rates are being monitored quarterly, the overall failure rate this quarter is 4.66%. For various reasons this data will fluctuate from marking period to marking period, however areas of concern are able to be identified and steps can be taken. For example, Study Skills as a topic has been introduced in Freshman Seminar classes.

**Table 2b** – Middle School Course Failures.

The overall failure rate in the Middle School this quarter = 2.19%, relatively unchanged. Study Skills are also being taught in the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, and several other interventions have been put in place. Counselors are now looking at a pilot of an intensive organizational program called HOPS, an intervention program for struggling students who are not receiving Special Ed supports.

**Table 3a** – Regents Mastery (a test score of 85% or better)

This table shows promising results so far in achieving the target for students attaining scores of 85% or better on Regents exams. As of Marking Period Two, this data shows an overall average of all courses of 34.4% of students on track to attain an 85% or better on Regents exams.

**Table 3b** – Gr. 3-8 Proficiency on State Assessments (Proficiency = 70%)

One of SED Formulas for rating proficiency is based on 95% of the enrollment, regardless of the number of children who opted out. Therefore the results here are skewed, and do not reflect the actual

percent of mastery of the students who were tested. Common assessments are being used by teachers to help predict achievement and identify areas of need.

**Table 4 – K-3 achievement in Reading, Writing and Math**

Common Assessments are used in order to determine progress towards the target of 90% of students, Approaching, At, or Above Grade Level in Reading, Writing and Math.

III The Fountas and Pinnell

The F & P is used as a diagnostic and prescriptive tool, and for placing students at appropriate reading level instruction. The District may revisit the reading program next year, once current curriculum changes in other areas have been completed. It was noted that the F & P has higher expectations when assessing readers than the SED exams.

IV Response to Intervention Committee

This is a district wide, 15 member committee that meets monthly. Their work includes investigating screening tools, assessments and interventions in order to improve student success. They are developing clear criteria for Academic Intervention Services (AIS) at the Middle school.

I Ready is a norm referenced, widely used reading assessment. The committee is exploring a pilot during the 20-21 school year to determine if this is a useful tool for full implementation. This is a k-8 assessment. Mrs. Guntlow, Middle School Principal Tony Martaurano, and other committee members are going to an I Ready users group for training (Note: This training was canceled due to the virus outbreak).

Respectfully submitted 3/11/2021

Regina Rose  
Committee Chair