

ICHABOD CRANE SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO Box 820, Valatie, New York 12184

Telephone (518) 758-7575

Fax (518) 758-7579

Academic Committee

December 14, 2020

Committee Members:

Present: Elaine Berlin, Ruth Moore, Elizabeth Phillips, Superintendent Suzanne Guntlow, Assistant Superintendent Christiansen

Absent: None

- Riders Pathway to Success
 - Suzanne shared a brief history on where the Rider's Goals came from and how the original process unfolded to ensure that new BOE members had the history. Suzanne explained that this particular initiative has evolved over time and the progress that has been made, while noting in particular how enthusiastically the teachers have embraced the process, allowing things to really move forward with success.
 - Huge gains had been made up until Spring of 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic swept in and completely shifted the focus of teachers and administrators.
- Data Report
 - The committee reviewed current common assessment data. Academic performance outlined in the first 20-21 academic assessment has very clearly suffered across the board for all cohorts. This is not a surprise given that a quarter of the 19-20 academic year was disrupted by the switch to remote learning in the Spring of 2020.
 - The committee used the 18-19 academic data as a baseline to compare the data.
 - Suzanne shared that teachers and administrators have assessed and immediately began creating initiatives to take action on the current dips in performance. The initiatives are being led by the Triple A teams (Assessment, Analysis, Action) that were formed during the creation of the Rider's Pathway in 2018.
 - At the start of the 2020 school year student's social and emotional needs were assessed immediately and action taken to make sure student felt safe and supported; academic assessments were a second step. Teachers and administration felt that this was the clear path given the distress that many students have experienced throughout the current pandemic.

- o Setting new targets that increase academic performance from the year prior seemed far too aggressive for the 20-21 school year, especially the need for so much social and emotional intervention at the start of the school year. Targets have been tweaked and many interventions created.
- Interventions
 - o Suzanne and Lucas outlined the extensive academic interventions that have been created and implemented for all three schools. Many of these were outlined in a previous Superintendents Report to the BOE, and consist of academic lunches, targeted study halls, and extended school days, just to name a few. Both Suzanne and Lucas feel confident that these interventions will have success, resulting in an increase in academic performance for the second quarter.
- Next Steps
 - o The committee will meet again in February to review the second quarter data.
 - o In the meantime, the many different committees and groups will to meet on an increased basis to monitor/modify the initiatives created.

New Academic Committee Meeting: Monday, February 22, 2021 @ 5:30pm