

ICHABOD CRANE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Academic Committee

February 22, 2021

Committee Members:

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

Guests: Craig Shull, Anthony Marturano

- Riders Pathway to Success and Goals
 - The committee reviewed the Pathway to Success goals and immediately moved into the Q2 data, provided by Suzanne and Lucas.

- Suzanne prefaced our review of the data by sharing that in general we have seen improvement in the Middle School data, and little if any improvement in the High School data. It is also noted that High School was fully remote for two weeks during this marking period.
 - The committee went through all data including the 6-12 course failures, the 3-8 common assessments and K-2 ELA and math proficiency data. As that data speaks for itself, the focus of the conversation was on the interventions, both those that are established and also ideas for further intervention. Suzanne and Lucas, along with the administrators, agreed that we will see the highest impact and improvement if we increase the ability for students to be in the school, in-person learning as much as possible. The current plan for this intervention is to use a tiered approach to bring back students with the highest need (based on both data and teacher's input) for increased in-person learning. Once more guidance is shared by the Dept of Health, and if we can work within the guidelines, the 6th grade cohort will be brought back in for five days a week in-person learning. This cohort is the youngest group using a hybrid schedule and is also a class size that is more manageable to distance within the classrooms.
 - Other interventions were reviewed and plans to revamp or change them shared by the Administration. Wednesday are currently being used as an additional day for students to be in the building at the High School level, and the Administrators shared that they are seeing an improvement with the students who are

participating in this intervention. Suzanne also shared that synchronous learning will begin ASAP.

- The committee also followed up on the enrichment for middle school (6-8) students, as it was preliminarily discussed at our last meeting. Suzanne shared that the principals have met with the librarians and are in the process of contacting the department heads to put something together. Various ideas are being floated and more will be known in the next three weeks.
- The committee also heard a quick overview of where the Primary School is with piloting the iReady program and also the switch to a new reading program. Both of these were in process prior to COVID-19. Lucas shared the positive reviews so far with the iReady piloting. The pilot group has expanded to roughly 250 students. If we decide to further commit to this assessment and diagnostic tool then the roll-out would happen over the course of a few years. The change in reading program has been paused for this because of the difficulty in assessing, choosing and implementing a new reading program during this challenging time. Suzanne said she and Lucas will continue the dialogue with the teachers and principals and decide whether or not this is possible for the 21/22 academic year.
- The end of the Q3 marking period is April 16th.

Next Academic Committee Meeting: Monday, May 4, 2021 @ 5:30pm