

# ICHABOD CRANE SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO Box 820, Valatie, New York 12184

Telephone (518) 758-7575

Fax (518) 758-7579

## Academic Committee

May 3, 2022

5:45pm

### **Committee Members:**

*Present:* Jennifer Allard, Elizabeth Phillips, Anne Schaefer, Superintendent Guntlow, Assistant Superintendent Christiansen

- Riders Pathway to Success 2024
  - Lucas briefly reviewed the Riders Pathway goals and targets
- Data Report
  - The committee jumped right into reviewing the Q3 common assessment data. Lucas noted findings throughout the review and time was taken to review existing and proposed interventions specific to each subject area and grade level reviewed.
  - The committee discussed HS failure rates at length. Many of the targets for grades 9-12 are not being met. Interventions are continuing at the high school, and all schools, to support students.
  - The committee discussed the contrast between the common assessment data collected that reflects many struggling students and our consistent graduation rate above 95%. This conversation evolved into a discussion around college retention rates for students graduating from ICC and going off to a 2- or 4-year school. We noted this topic for discussion and potential analysis at a later date.
  - Lucas shared that the 6-12 pathway teams will meet and go over the data extensively. These meetings will drive the direction of additional funds (if needed) as part of the year end conversation.
  - Lucas also shared that the district is partnering with a platform that offers additional help to students with tutoring virtually. ICC will begin by contracting for a bank of hours, and decide after this initial period whether or not this is helpful and also being utilized by students. This service, like many similar, are being used nationally in an attempt to combat the limited number of tutors available to students in need, as a result of the pandemic and the learning loss associated.

- PS Reading Program Update
  - Lucas shared with the committee that a new reading program has been selected by the committee. The program is Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) or sometimes referred to as “Amplify.” CKLA is grounded in the science of reading and the LETRS training our district has invested in was a key factor in this decision. As an aside, Hudson School District has been utilizing this program for the last two years with great success.
  - Ample opportunities for teacher training in CKLA will be available, both over the summer and during Opening Days in September. The vendor will be available to the district to walk through the program change along with the staff and administrators.
- Distance Learning
  - The district will continue to partner with NERIC for Distance Learning. We hope to expanding our offerings each year based on demand for the classes, guidance counselor recommendations, course selection data and analysis of where students are enrolling. As the interest in various subject area ebbs and flows, classes are adjusted.
- Addition of programming
  - New class offerings both in-house and over distance learning are largely based on student interest and come from conversations between students and teachers and counselors about career trajectories and course selections, enrollments and interest in existing programs, student interest surveys and course selections which occur each spring. This robust process allows the district to be flexible and responsive to student needs and interests as they change over time. For example, the upgrades to the STEAM wing at the high school are a direct result of demand for more courses like Automotive and Woodworking. Distance learning classes are selected annually based on signups and interest. Elective course offerings in the course catalog are extensive, and it is important to note that there are more courses listed than we have the ability to offer every year. Students make requests and when a critical enrollment is reached we offer the class. This course request mechanism also provides valuable information about evolving student interests. We also work closely with local colleges to offer a wide array of credit-bearing coursework. This process is also interest driven and is adjusted based on course requests.
- Next Steps
  - Building level Rider Pathway meetings ongoing
  - Quarter 4 data report – early July

**Next Academic Committee Meeting: Aug 15, 2022**