

Academic Committee Minutes from 4/25/2023

The academic committee met last week on the 25th and we discussed the quarter three data report. Overall, we are pleased with the interim progress we have seen in reducing course failures at the high school and middle school, and with the improving proficiency predictors in grades k-8. We are working to support students in grades 7 and 11 where we still see higher than normal failure rates, and are collaborating with the Riders Pathway teams to improve and rework our arsenal of supports and interventions.

Lucas also gave a brief update about the reading program selection efforts in process for grades 4, 5, and 6. The district has followed a parallel strategy to the one used to select CKLA at the primary school. We have engaged BOCES literacy specialists, our internal team of reading teachers, department heads and administrators to narrow a wide field down to 4 finalists. Those programs will be reviewed by a team of 15 teachers and three administrators next week on Tuesday and we plan to make a final recommendation for adoption at the June board meeting.

Lastly, I'll share that we discussed emerging priority areas and achievement gaps in some of our subgroups such as our students with disabilities, and English language learners. The Rider's Pathway teams felt this was worthy of more work and attention as we continue to refine supports offered to teachers through the professional development program and our instructional strategies on a system-wide scale.