



Academic Committee  
11/11/21 at 8:30  
CT Young

Participants:

Joan Stidham, Director of Teaching & Learning  
Megan Rivet, Director of Student Services  
Lisa Whiteley, Director of Communications  
Holly Simms, Principal  
Ryan McDonald, Board of Education

\*Please know that no decisions were made during this meeting. The purpose of this committee is to discuss the academics of the Three Rivers Local School District. Any District decisions are made during Board of Education meetings. These meeting dates can be found on the Three Rivers Local School District website.

- 1) Welcome and Agenda Review
  - Discussed Dibels and MAP data and Forecast 5
  - Observations are currently being held
  - Discussed the potential impact of covid on student learning and progress
  
- 2) Taylor Middle School Updates-Holly Simms
  - a) Math -
    - the end of 7th grade year, you take the 8th grade test; students who do not pass have to take a semester class of math lab in 8th grade to be included in the Algebra I class..
    - Holly explained the negative outcome of student retainment; better to support the student the following year through review and intervention
    - Math Lab is going really well in the 2021-22 school year.
  
  - b) TBTs
    - Meet twice a week - two days in a row.
    - one day they meet as a grade level team, the next day they meet as a content
    - they have to give the same assessment - content can be taught differently but assessments have to be the same
    - benchmark data is helping teachers to better understand where students are in real-time.

c) Intervention Process

-7th grade is looking at more electives that support the core fundamental skills but are interesting to the students.

-Offer a writing course; this would get the kids that are passionate about writing but also would pull students who need the intervention in writing. This would be an elective.

-Public speaking course

-STEM course

-These intervention options meet both the teachers interests and the students.

TMS is looking for creative opportunities to help support students in the 7th grade without only relying on Jacket Time.

3) CNN and other resource selections

-Global Warming story - some parents concerned with the resource selection

-Channel 1 used to be our news source (no longer exists)

-Mrs. Simms said the CNN selections are neutral - teachers are asked to watch before they show it to kids

-The news selected is created for kids - Kids CNN

-Used mostly in 6th grade social studies and science

4) ELA Adoption Update

-Teachers need to have resources that are Board-adopted.

-At elementary level, looking for common resources to keep everyone on the same page

-Discussed the culture of more writing in all grade levels and all content areas.

5) Other

-Jackets Academy - professional development where OUR staff presents on areas where they do well.

-Discussed the process for vetting novels - a proactive approach vs. reactive. Providing parents with an opportunity to be part of the process.

6) Set Next Meeting date

-January 5th - 1:30 pm