



PCCS Academic Excellence Committee Approved Meeting Minutes

Monday March 7, 2016 7:00 PM
 Kennicott Building – Art Room
 1591 Jones Point Road
 Grayslake, IL 60030

Call to Order 7:02pm

Chair Nick Kotzamanis

Present: N. Kotzamanis, A. Reagan, T. Zamiar, S. Ross, J. Doerr, B. Bolin, A. Mastanderea, M. Smith

Staff: T. Zamiar

Public: Sue Ross (Board Member)

1. Math Differentiation/ALEKS update

T. Zamiar shared preliminary feedback. Students in target grades have been identified. Lower building has variability in implementation/use. Upper building data: 12 students signed, 5 students not participating. Not all staff responded to survey. Tony will follow up with those staff members.

Teachers cited lack of time as a constraint in implementation, also student motivation.

For students implementing program, anecdotal data suggests progress. Tony expressed he felt it too soon to make a recommendation re: ALEKS.

How is ALEKS success is defined? Stop-gap for upper-end learners versus tool to enhance performance at all grade levels?

Comment/Discussion notes: S. Ross shared concern about lack of information regarding ALEKS and parent support expectations. Her children implementing the program have responded positively. Suggestion—1 staff member to implement/monitor ALEKS?

B. Bolin expressed concerns about staff/parent accountability and how successful implementation is defined. Discussion: options for implementation—REI? Study hall?

J. Doerr expressed similar concern re: implementation and how success is defined.

A. Mastanderea expressed her student enjoys ALEKS and responds positively to the graphic feedback. She also noted lack of parent communication regarding expectations for parent implementation.

2. II. Curriculum: Coding/Technology

N. Kotzamanis shared information on behalf of Dan Fedor re: possible Coding/Users of Technology Instruction. Discussion: “Girls Who Code” extracurricular activity into environmental-based curriculum. How to “weave it in”?

Tony shared Digital Citizenship packet/information to be discussed among staff.

3. Approval of 9/2015 minutes

M. Smith motion to approve - A. Reagan second – All in favor

Adjourn: 7:50PM - M. Smith motion to adjourn. B. Bolin second – All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,
 Michelle Smith