



Academic Excellence Committee Meeting Minutes

Approved

**Tuesday, May 14, 2019 6:00 PM
Wright School House-Ranney Library
1531 Jones Point Road
Grayslake, IL 60030**

Call to Order 6:03 PM

Chair-Devon Mann

Members Present: Devon Mann, Sue Ross, Nell Anen, Ted Erski, Abe Janis (arrived at 6:40)

Staff Present: Geoff Deigan, Tony Zamiar

Discussion Agenda:

1. Measures to Ensure Academic Growth of All Students

Mr. Deigan proposed that this committee help to ensure that PCCS is meeting accountability measures in new charter agreement. Committee and staff members present determined that it seemed appropriate for this committee to oversee and support efforts to comply with Exhibit D of the charter renewal which relates to the promotion of academic growth of all students.

Members and staff discussed various means of measuring student growth. Traditionally, PARCC/IAR scores are used to measure student growth. It was discussed that PCCS is unique in its emphasis on developing Catalyst and natural leadership goals in students. Staff and this committee will continue to discuss ways to measure and document student growth in these areas. The committee discussed that Mr. Zamiar would like to have additional time to support teachers in implementing more academic growth and leadership opportunities in the classroom. As such, the Board of Directors has approved budget funding to potentially add a staff member to address concerns regarding discipline and classroom culture to give Mr. Zamiar more time to focus on academic growth.

2. Catalyst Goals Initiatives

Mr. Deigan facilitated discussion among members and staff present regarding ongoing plans to implement Catalyst goals. Mr. Deigan shared that PCCS is doing a full-scale school involvement program (i.e. teachers, administration, other staff are involved in the development and implementation of Catalyst goals). Two specific goals were discussed. One related to PCCS demonstrating growth each year on all academic standards through an integrated curriculum grounded in education for sustainability, service learning, and problem based learning. The second goal states a commitment to having an inclusive culture of sustainability at PCCS.

Mr. Deigan shared that these Catalyst goals have a target date of August/September 2019 for implementation. A new "CAREs" acronym will be shared across the PCCS community at that time. The acronym stands for "Collaborative, Aware, Respectful, and Empowered" and will be used to more clearly define what it means to be a "natural leader" at PCCS.

The members and staff then discussed the goal that PCCS students, families, and staff will take their environmental learning with them when they exit the PCCS community. Ms.

Mann suggested that PCCS alumni be contacted to share their stories of how they personally took their environmental learning from PCCS into their future endeavors.

3. Structure of Committee Meetings for FY20 Meetings

Committee discussed that meetings were previously held on approximately a quarterly basis. Given the new emphasis of this committee supporting the charter accountability measures and Catalyst goals, it was discussed that the committee may need to meet more frequently. It was decided that the committee will meet approximately the third Tuesday of every other month at 6:00 PM. Exact timing of meetings may fluctuate based on needs of this committee and/or the other board committees.

4. Question & Answers

No questions were presented at this meeting.

5. Review Minutes of Previous Committee Minutes

There were no minutes to review. Minutes from last meeting will be approved at either next Board of Directors meeting or next Academic Excellence Committee Meeting.

Public Comment 10 minutes

There was no public comment.

Action Agenda:

2A. Approve Minutes from Previous Committee Meetings

No action was taken as minutes were not reviewed.

New Business-Future Agenda Items

It was discussed that in addition to working on academic growth and Catalyst goals at each meeting, committee members will also have an opportunity to ask staff present about other academic related concerns.

Adjourn

There being no further business before the board, Ms. Anen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Mann.

On voice call-“all ayes” . Motion carried at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Nell Anen
Committee Member