

New Bedford School Committee
Curriculum Sub-Committee

Monday, September, 26, 2011
Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order at 6:50 PM by Dr. Finnerty

2. Roll Call of Committee Members

Present: Dr. Finnerty (chair), Dr. Fletcher, Ms. Pollock

Staff Attending: Dr. Mary Louise Francis, Jane Daly

3. Update on:

- a. Graduation Coaches: Our Race to the Top (RTT) Grant was recently approved. A draft of a job description for a *MassCore Graduation Facilitator* was discussed. As of right now, at least 3.0 positions will be funded. Pending an internal review, these positions will be posted.

MassCore Graduation Facilitator positions have been discussed in the past, but were not funded. Now through RTT, the positions have been funded. At-risk students will be referred and assigned to these facilitators, and the facilitators will meet individual students' needs. Dr. Finnerty asked about how the effectiveness of the facilitator roles will be monitored, and it was discussed that the RTT grant and DESE set data indicators that will be monitored.

- b. Curriculum Administrator: The Academic Director of English Language Arts position is now vacant, and will be posted along with the Academic Director of Mathematics position. These positions will support the initiatives outlined in the District Turnaround Plan. Discussion on current positions related to curriculum, instruction, and professional development took place. Dr. Francis is working to plan for and manage the changes in the administrative team.

A presentation at the next Curriculum Sub-Committee Meeting will be given regarding an overview of the new 2011 ELA & Literacy and Math Frameworks.

4. DIBELS Training update

- a. Teachers of grades K, 1, and 2, were trained to administer *DIBELS Next* on August 30th, during the teacher professional development day. Teachers have received kits and user licenses have been assigned. Through Title I funds and some school budgets, there are netbooks for teachers to administer and record results. *DIBELS Next* is meant as broad-based testing, and DRA-2 will be used for further drill-down assessment. Discussion took place regarding how to provide interventions for students who need it. Blended learning, like Extralearning online, is one approach that helps make the instructional process more efficient to meet the needs of students.

At a future meeting, members of the sub-committee would like an introduction to *DIBEL-Next*, and further information on the 3-tiered model regarding the types of interventions that are occurring for regular education students.

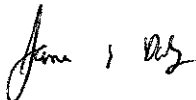
5. Other Business

- a. The New Educator Evaluation Regulations were discussed. A meeting with the NBEA will be established to review DESE's "Model Protocol" in order to develop a system as required by DESE for teacher evaluation at Parker, as a Level 4 School. The use of multiple sources of data was discussed. Currently, Galileo data is collected that compares a student's performance at the beginning of the school year, to quarterly benchmarks, to end of year results. MCAS, as it exists now, may not be the same as national assessments that will be used beginning the 2014-2015 school year. A national assessment will give a better sense of how our students are achieving nationally on the new common core.
- b. A discussion regarding required reading of Frederick Douglas' autobiography took place. A similar type of required reading for elementary level students was discussed.

6. Adjourn

Motion made to adjourn by Ms. Pollock, seconded by Dr. Fletcher. All voted to adjourn at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:



Jane Daly

Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and School Improvement