

ILT 12/4

Present: J. Chambers, E. Kenney-Levin, K. Restle, S. Bramlage, M. Kessen, L. Thelen, L. Wasem, A. Cabrera, B. Sweeney, M. Sherman, S. Barringer, F. Schneider, D. Fox, A. Byars, P. Riddle, H. Durbin, D. Pfeiffer, M. Perdrix, M. Bohmer, Y. Munir, B. Smith, D. Coleman, T. Ligon

Meeting Start at 2:45

Reviewing and Accepting Minutes from November

Corrections to Minutes

- None

Motion to Accept Minutes - Passes

Special Order of Business

- Comment from Thelen's team on Student Success Center Update
 - Thelen's team would like it added that for their team of the 8 students that attend 7 are still failing

Old Business

Schedule E contract discussion

Originator

Kenney/Ellison

- Kenney's talk with Athletics
 - Contracts were sent from district on July 25th
 - Coaches contracts for fall sports are completed first.
 - Came in sporadically between July 24 through October 10
 - Rest of schedule E contracts were sent October 1
 - Schedule E people were asked to send them back in by October 11
 - All of the signatures needed did not get submitted until October 23
 - We could give suggestions for options like a possible hard deadline for earlier submissions and then one for a later one.
 - Most of these issues are with the District timeline rather than the school's
- Fine Arts feels a hard deadline would be more preferable to avoid issues of when people are or are not getting paid
 - Fine Arts requesting that the Marching Band and theater contracts that start earlier be processed along with the fall sports coaches
 - Administration discussed that a hard deadline had been used in the past.
 - Failure to submit info in time would mean delay in pay
- The district failing to follow the timeline could potentially be grieved as the timeline they provide is part of the contract
- Kenney will talk with Ellison first about the possibility of a hard deadline to resolve the situation

Latin for Incoming 9th Graders

Chambers

- Proposal for potential approaches is going to be brought out in January's ILT
- Delay in formal proposal comes from trying to determine resolution to credit issues with the district and state level
- Concern over delay for next year with course guide being printed so soon
- A new course would not need to be created
- Potential resolution being discussed is that Latin for incoming high schoolers would count as an elective credit that is required, but it would not be counted as a language credit
 - If students took Latin 3 and Latin 4, they would still earn credit as they can now.
- Proposal should be discussed in January

Double Bell .5 AP Request

Pfeiffer

- Situation still stands that students cannot earn a half credit for a year long AP
 - This also comes from College Board itself for the AP credit
- Could we potentially have students in a Walnut-level course that grants a semester of elective credit (no AP attached)
- Anyone can take any AP exam, so students could take it for elective and opt to take the test itself later on
 - Students cannot get the weighted credit toward their GPA
- Aren't there concerns over overload?
 - Teacher approval necessary
- Concerns raised over students not being able to take the classes if they are not in double-bell sciences
 - Students who have study hall could take it as a class
- Concerns raised over attendance and accountability
 - Concerns over if we can track for students' attendance hours and with the district
 - Other concerns raised over how we find students if there are emergencies or issues
 - In the past, teachers have used a seating chart attendance sheet to mark if a student is not there.
- Classics discussed nesting classes
 - Nesting meaning classes are paired together and
 - If classes were nested, instead would that take care of the problem?
 - Classes are currently being nested together as much as possible
- If this becomes a policy, does this impact all of our departments in the interest of equity?
 - Concerns of issues of equity since other courses wouldn't have that option
 - A double-bell science student it actually at a disadvantage for not having the class available because two bells are being taken
 - If this only impacts a double-bell science, is this actually equitable?
 - What if students wanted to take two humanities APs (eg AP Psych and AP French in a single bell of auditing)

- Clarification: a number of these questions for auditing and other classes are not connected to this specific proposal
- Proposal Language: Students taking a second academic class during the off bells of a double-bell science would receive 1.5 credit for the double-bell science and .5 for the class they take in the off days
- Further Discussion:
 - Teachers being able to decline is not included in the proposal
 - .5 credit is not even an option in the system
 - In other schools, some AP courses (like AP Comp Sci A) are offered as semester courses
- Motion to Approve Proposal:
 - Yes - 3
 - No - 14
 - Abstain - 4
 - Proposal does not pass

New Business

Originator

Junior High Health Requirement

Durbin

- Proposal was sent out again with more detailed information
- Seventh graders have to take 4 core academic classes, Latin, and a grade 7 PE, and a fine arts
 - Gives students 8 available bells between 4 semesters from grades 7 and 8
 - Prior to 2013, seventh graders took health as a requirement and it worked without hurting other programs
 - The original change from the requirement was because 8th graders could get a credit with a high school
- It does not seem like it will affect scheduling teaming back to back
- Fine Arts concerned over how it impacts programs now
 - Counselors think it only affects it if they are taking a Modern Foreign Language as well
- Concern over students not being able to have mental health break with study hall
 - Seventh grade students are working through mindfulness and awareness
- Thelen's team supports having it as an elective next year and getting parent feedback
- The health course would cover mental health and give students a chance to learn coping skills, information about how to deal with stressors, and other tools that could help them handle it.
- Motion to table the proposal and take it back to departments and vote on it in January
 - If we table it, it could still be in the course guide but we could approve the "required" portion later
 - Yes - 12
 - No - 3
 - Abstain - 5

Exam Exemption Discussion

Chambers

- Policy is that teachers are supposed to give exams, but there are teachers exempting students from any kind of exam in a semester if the student has 2 A's for the quarters
- Perdrix discussed ideas from AdvancED
 - Could have it set that 1st semester exams do have to happen
 - Could use a merit system and good enough grades to exempt from semester 2
 - Chambers mentioned concern for inequity of using out of class behavior for in class exam grades
- Kenney concern over if students would be able to go through the school experience without taking exams that they may get to college without that experience
 - Students do also take AP exams or would have experience testing in that situation
- Fine Arts wants to have a performance based exception so they could have an authentic opportunity.
- Nowhere in the language of policies does it say that students who earn 2 A's can be exempt from any exams
- Concern over teachers each having different policies and then parents being frustrated if some students are exempt and others are not depending on who their teacher is
- Language needed for if we are going to have an exemption policy
 - This would need to be across the board for all grades
- With the exam change, the district policy is now that it is a "semester assessment" so it opens the opportunity for assessments that are not just traditional exams
- Sweeney will create a proposal to discuss at next ILT

Motion to end meeting

Meeting ends at 4:01