

Academic Committee
Tentative Agenda
6/4/18
8am in room 4A

If you are giving an update, can you please make sure to indicate if your work/taskforce is done or what more needs to be done, so that we can remember for next year? Thanks!

- 1) Credit Recovery - by Noelle
- 2) WBWF - Tom
- 3) HS Students who enroll late - Joell will have a process by next fall
- 4) Progress Monitoring - Tom
- 5) PD committee - Lisa
 - a) The staff voted to have one member from each of the following departments on this committee: Administration, Special Education, Math, English, Social Studies, MAPE (Music, Arts and PE), Spanish and Science. The departments can decide who their representative will be.
 - b) When should the committee begin their work?
 - c) What will be their charge?
 - d) Other questions?
- 6) Spanish Requirements - Lisa
 - a) After looking at all of the data* the Spanish Department decided to keep the current graduation standards.
 - b) The staff voted unanimously to keep the current graduation standards in Spanish as well.
 - c) This will go to the next Board meeting. Are there any other ideas/comments we should add to our findings?
 - d) *I will send the data in another email. The data includes:
 - i) Current Spanish Progression at MSA
 - ii) How many students are affected at each level at MSA
 - iii) What other public schools require for World Language
 - iv) What other charter schools require for World Language
 - v) What colleges recommend or require
- 7) Graduation Requirements - Lisa
 - a) One student is graduating without meeting the MSA graduation standards. This student failed a PSEO class (Pre-Calculus), but the community college still allowed this student to take the next class in the sequence and they passed (Calculus) at the college. However, the MSA handbook (approved by the Board) reads that they must pass all of the classes: *"The math program at the Math and Science Academy consists of a comprehensive curriculum that allows students to advance at their own pace, provided that they can demonstrate mastery of the content material. The typical sixth grade student will start in Pre-Algebra. After students have reached a level of understanding of basic mathematics, they will*

begin Algebra I with Geometry. After completing Algebra I with Geometry, Algebra II with Geometry, Algebra III with Geometry and Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, and Calculus I, students will have learned all of the mathematics necessary to succeed in a traditional college level Calculus I course. In order to graduate from MSA, students must successfully complete all courses in the math sequence through Calculus I."

- b) It's probably too late for this year - three days before graduation, but how can we make sure that the handbook policies are followed in the future?
 - c) Do we want the handbook policy to remain the same or to change it?
 - i) Do we really want all kids to pass all classes, or if they pass the last one in the sequence, is that good enough?
 - ii) If we want them to pass all of the classes, is there wording that needs to change for Math and other classes such as Spanish and Science that are sequential?
 - d) What is the process if there seems to be an exception that should be made to the policy?
 - i) Can there be exceptions to the policy and how is that determined? How do we make sure that it does not create a bigger problem? How many students at MSA or PSEO have failed classes and we have made them repeat the class, and now this students does not have to repeat the class? This seems to be a dangerous precedent.
 - ii) If we decide to allow exceptions, I wanted to suggest some sort of a procedure just to have a place to start our discussion from? It does not have to be this, but just a place to start...
 - (1) Student/parent goes to the Academic Counselor or Director with an issue that they think merits an exception to the rules.
 - (2) The Director/Academic Advisor would discuss with the Department Chair before making a decision.
 - (3) If the issue is unresolved, and the Director/Academic Advisor want to pursue, they would go to the Academics Committee
 - (4) If the issue is still unresolved, and the Director/Academic Advisor want to pursue, they would go to the Board
 - e) Other?
- 8) Next Meeting?

