

12-4-2017

Academic Agenda

Room 4A

8:00 am

Hannah, Courtney, Patti, Noelle, Molly, Maggie, Cheri, Jenna, Kassie, Lisa, Bronwen, Tom, John, Jenn, Deb

## 1.PSEO

- A. The Board agreed that AP, PSEO and all classes should be graded on a 4.0 Scale.

BOD agreed that all classes should be graded on a 4.0 scale.

- B. PSEO Equivalencies Task Force - Lisa

We should create a task force to review PSEO equivalencies changes as they are made.

Because of the dispute there will be a task force formed to look at all PSEO classes classes to check for equivalency

4 teachers, 2 parents, 1 admin

Teachers are supposed to be the experts in their subjects which is why the task force is teacher heavy.

We need volunteers to join the task force:

It will be a committee that needs to meet as needed.

Why 2 parents and 4 teachers?

We want an odd number of people on the committee.

Teachers have a different viewpoint than some parents may have. If we're telling the teachers.

We want parent input and opinion.

BOD has more teachers than parents; however, we have a community member on the BOD.

The Spanish department will not be part of the task force.

There will be the opportunity to receive information from other people to give to the task force.

There have been opportunities for parents to speak and ask questions, but not many people have shown up.

If what we discussed in June is the same thing, Noelle doesn't think people understand their options.

Lisa doesn't feel that sending out an email about PSEO equivalencies. If people want to attend a task force meeting and speak their mind, then they will have that opportunity at a task force meeting

Noelle has brought the information she has shared in the past about the course requirements for college courses versus high school courses.  
We need to be willing to accept other people's point of views.

Why isn't the social studies course being allowed an issue? Why is it just the Spanish courses?

We are worried we are not serving kids.  
For Patti's son PSEO was his only option this year. There are options, and he doesn't like them.  
It is important that the kids have the PSEO option.

Patti, Cheri, Donna,  
(We will offer it up to other teachers in the departments)

#### C. Spanish PSEO Equivalencies Update - Kassie

We presented our curriculum at the parent team meeting. Since then a task force has been

We have seen the current curriculum from the PSEO kids and still feel that the decision to update our equivalences is the right one.

Are there meeting minutes from the Parent Team Meeting? Yes, they have not posted them.

#### 2. Credit Recovery Task Force - Noelle

Michelle K, joelle, and noelle met to discuss this issue. Emily would like guidance. This applies to high school students who have failed a course that hinders their graduation requirements. All of a sudden they can't graduate and we do not offer other options for them.

Families will go and find a course to take the place and after the fact come back to MSA to receive credit for the course. In the past we have allowed this for numerous reasons.

This is becoming a larger problem due to more transfer students who are not on target to graduate from MSA.

Should this be a procedure or a policy?

Emily will be able to intervene earlier to avoid the student taking the course and us accepting/not accepting the course.

Noelle gets the runaround when she talks to large public schools about this issue.

Often the issue is more about the students not turning in work or making up assignments... Oftentimes, this doesn't change with the PSEO or other courses.

Do we need to offer these courses legally? Statutes and MDE rules are unclear. Do we have the right to determine what is acceptable?

The math department does have a list of acceptable courses students can take outside of MSA.

Once they've repeated a course, they receive an NG (no grade) for the older course. They still receive the updated newer grade. This way it shows on the transcript they have taken the course twice, but it doesn't affect the GPA.

We want to identify some credit recovery people who can speak to us.

Michelle K. want to reinstate a progression list.

Admin would compile a list of second chance courses to determine who needs credit recovery.

We are still only focusing on those who are in trouble of not graduating.

This will help to identify earlier who these students are.

Michelle K. was supposed to mention this at the November staff meeting, but it did not happen.

As soon as a math student transfers in, we let the parents know immediately that they are in danger of not graduating.

Typical scenario: an incoming 9th grader in Algebra II is not on track. They are given many options to get on track and retake a placement test, unless it is a credit recovery course offered through the home district.

Bronwyn will share her information for math course recovery.

There are problems in multiple disciplines, not just math.

We need to know our legal standing and what the requirements are.

### **3. Educational Program Policy Task Force - Cheri**

Met in November. Looking at STAR and MAP testing for middle level grades.

We will meet again in January.

Continue working on the calendar and the policies.

### **4. World's Best Workforce - Tom**

We submitted the BOD approved

Hoping to get another meeting held before break.

There will be a community meeting in February to discuss this year's goals.

### **5. Grant process - Tom**

Teachers had the opportunity to turn in grants by January 26th to Tom.

We will receive the requests by the 29th.

We will discuss and approve grants at the February meeting.

Finance will verify funds.

We are giving teachers and staff a chance to figure out what they want so they can show what the money went for. We have December and January to figure it out. Once approved teachers can order right away.

The goal is to have items on sight by spring break.

There is only one form.

Curriculum materials and impact grant. Teachers apply for curriculum materials. Impact grants are for all employees.

What about capital improvements? Smart boards would be capitol.

#### 6. Review and Update Calendar if necessary

We need to add the PSEO equivalency decisions to the calendar. We need to provide this information to students prior to registration.

Emily wants to meet with students before this deadline to make sure graduation requirements are on track for each student.

Hopefully they can meet in January.

#### 7. New Business

- A. Update/revise Parent Expectations form (which is included in new student registration forms).

Last year we came up with a letter about MSA expectations. Joelle would like to make changes to the letter and the forms.

Justin is requiring a video to be shown before online registration.

- B. Reading Screening - Impact Grant - Cheri

We need to pursue this. She would like to see this happen this year. 6-9th grade

Get an outside consultant to

Maggie will help Cheri write an impact grant. This will help to determine the need for a reading specialist.

MAP and STAR testing will help identify these kids.

Identify the need and go forward from there.

#### Back to the calendar

Where are we for the cross-curricular collaboration?

Do we want to raise the issue again?

We want stuff to match up. Do we want to keep going on this?

Teachers need time to do this.

It was difficult to match up. It is done more informally.

Do we want to revisit it for next year?

Are there ways to identify this?

We will meet January 8th, 8:00 room 1A.