

Academic Agenda for May 7

Room 4A

8am

Lisa, Cheri, Cassie, Maggie, John, Tom, Mr. Nightingale, Courtney, Mrs. Meyer, Bronwen, Joell, Molly, Jen, Patti

1. PSEO Spanish Task Force - Emily

n/a

2. Credit Recovery Task Force- Noelle

No mandate. Can be decided at a local level.

3. WBWF - Tom

n/a

4. High School Students who enroll late - Joell

By fall Joell will have a process figured out

5. Course Grades for Partial Semesters -John

All information has been turned into John. These will be added to the parent and student handbooks.

Are we okay with some departments having different dates?

The staff decided to let departments decide.

The information will be clear in the handbooks.

6. Progress Monitoring - Tom

On board with Fastbridge. Current students have been enrolled. Working on creating training.

Looking for a few advisories to do a trial run to look for bugs. No scores will be used as data

7. Creation of a PD Committee - Lisa

- A. Is it likely that we will have any data from this year, to create a goal for next year?
- B. Who should be on this committee?
- C. What will their job be for next year?
- D. There is money put aside for this committee
- E. Would teachers who planned and presented elements get paid?
- F. Other questions?

Who should be on this committee? There is money set aside for this committee. Unsure where to go with this right now.

There should be a connection to Fastbridge. This does not mean the PD will always be academically driven. They are connected, but this doesn't automatically mean the PD will focus on this.

How will this work? Admin determines what this is and how it looks.

Year long? Summer?

Fastbridge data will need to be looked at to determine what (if anything) should be used for PD.

Who should be on this committee? If there are no volunteers, should we have required departments/teachers on the committee?

Staff meeting on Wednesday will offer the opportunity to join the committee. Are the summer hours the roadblock? There will be a stipend for the summer hours. We need a person from the core departments so then. If no one joins, the admin will make decisions and run them by the department heads via email.

1. Volunteers
2. One person from departments
3. Admin tells us what has been decided

8. Spanish Requirements for Graduation - Lisa

The BOD is concerned that there is an equity issue in that some students are required to graduate with 3 years of HS Spanish, whereas other students are allowed to graduate with fewer years. So the BOD would like to have some research about the graduation standards. I have come up with the following questions:

- A. What are the MN Dept of Ed requirements for graduation?
- B. How many MSA students graduate with 1,2,3 or 4 years of HS Spanish? How is this determined?
- C. What do other local HS (Stillwater, So Washington, WBL, SSP) require?
- D. What do other charter schools (Eagle Ridge, Nova, St. Croix and Twin Cities) require?
- E. What role should the department play in a change of graduation standards?
- F. What role should the overall teachers play in a change of graduation standards? Should there be a teacher vote on it?
- G. Is it true for other subjects as well? What role would this decision make on the overall rigor of the school?
- H. If a department doesn't want to change their graduation standards, (I assume?) that the BOD is the only entity that can change the standards?
- I. Any other questions?

Tentative Schedule:

Step One: Complete research by May 14

Step Two: Bring to the Department

Step Three: Bring to the Staff Meeting on May 30

Step Four: Bring to the Board during the June Meeting

Three years is what we require right now. When it's compared to math, the Spanish students do not all end in the same place, with math they all end with Calculus.

This year's seniors are our first class where we took in 9th graders.

- A. No MN Dept of Ed requirements for Spanish/language. This comes back to the BOD decision on what this means.
- B. A new 9th grader starts with Intro to Spanish, Spanish I, II, and III. Kassie was told they need three years of high school Spanish (II, III, and IV). Joell would like more clarification for scheduling purposes.

Is there a way a transfer student could have different Spanish requirements? There are not allotments made unless it's an IEP.

Are there options we can present to the BOD?

Joell will use Kassie's flow chart to determine the number of students who followed which path.

C. This will be looked at. Most of the schools will most likely require two years of highschool Spanish. What about students who have other language credits when they transfer in? Does it happen a lot? A lot of colleges are looking for four years of a language, even though high schools are requiring two.

D. The department should have a say.

F. This is a change in the rigor of our school. The teachers should have a say. This will allow the BOD to see what other schools do, what the Spanish teachers want, what the staff wants. This is changing graduation standards, and the Academic Committee shouldn't make a recommendation. This needs to be equitable for everybody.

G. Is this true for other topics/subject areas? This change shouldn't affect other departments. How many kids does this really affect?

H. n/a

I. Kassie will look at colleges to see what they require and/or look for from the students applying. Kassie has a flow chart based on the students grade of entering MSA, what his/her requirements would be.

This information will be pulled together by Monday, May 14th on a shared electronic document. This will be shared with the staff at the May 30th staff meeting, and the BOD at the June meeting.

9. New Topics?

Next Meeting June, 4th at 8:00 A.M.

