

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

November 19, 2020

4:30 p.m. – Room 214

Minutes

1. Welcome/Introductions

Some members joined the meeting by ZOOM. Members Present: S Bailey, S Arns, R Petty, J Thorsen, C Vogler, L Klinkenberg. Members Absent: P Arnold, G McCarty

2. Questions and Comments from the Public

Jeff Kerkhoff provided three articles to the committee, "Social Emotional Learning: The Dark Side", "How Public Schools Indoctrinate Kids Without Almost Anyone Noticing" and "The Federalist Papers Summary."

3. Committee Discussion Items

- **Illinois Interactive Report Card**

Kim reviewed the Illinois Interactive Report Card information which was released on October 31, 2020. Kim shared that this year is unique as some information is not reported and other data is noted as being impacted by COVID-19. The U.S. Department of Education offered states a waiver of all federally required assessments, summative designations, and many reporting requirements for the Illinois Report Card for the 2019-2020 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Data Not Available or Possibly Impacted by COVID-19**

- Academic Progress
- District Environment
- Accountability
- Students
- Teachers
- Administrators N/A

Quincy Public Schools Teacher Attendance and Evaluation data as well as 5 Essentials data are accurate as they were completed before the shutdown in March.

There is new data on the Illinois Report Card for Gifted and Accelerated Education. Kim shared that "Gifted" is defined locally. QPS uses an accelerated program to provide a way for a student to advance, which involves the parent, school and child. 5.3% of QPS students are in accelerated classes. Previous Iowa Skills scores, IQ Tests, and Academic Data and teacher input are used to identify students. Students may accelerate in certain classes, such as math, but remain with their grade level for other classes. Students are assessed each quarter to determine if they are still progressing. There was discussion on reporting on older students who were in advanced classes prior to the gifted designation by the state. Remote accelerated students are using Edgenuity, and some are moving quickly through the curriculum.

- **New Course Proposals 2021-2022**

1. **Social Emotional Success** - Provide viable and engaging elective options for students in an online/remote learning setting. Ideally for students enrolled in alternative placement (ABC/ACRSS, GAP, Learning Center) have limited opportunities for meaningful and purposeful elective credit-bearing elective classes. This course would provide a viable and engaging course, aligned to state SEL and CASEL standards. There are not costs with this course as it a part of Edgenuity contract.
2. **Ceramics** – Ceramics is an introductory course covering the three basic methods of hand building. Students will produce ceramic artwork using pinch, slab and coil techniques. Students will explore three-dimensional design while developing both useful and sculptural forms while learning the basic vocabulary of ceramics as well as methods of surface treatment, firing, and other related aspects. Art history, aesthetics and art criticism will be incorporated throughout the course. Creativity and quality craftsmanship are emphasized. Estimated cost is \$2500 for textbooks, software, and instructional materials which will come from QHS building budget. This is a current course that is being re-written.

4. Recommend to the Board of Education for Action

- Sheldon Bailey asked for a motion to recommend the Social Emotional Course proposal to the Board for approval. A motion was made by Rachael Petty and seconded by Shelley Arns.
- Sheldon asked for a motion to recommend the Ceramics course proposal to the Board for approval. A motion was made by Sheldon and seconded by Shelley Arns.
- Sheldon asked for a motion to recommend to the Board to approve the review of 2019-2020 Illinois School Report Card. A motion was made by Shelley Arns and seconded by Rachael Petty.

5. Consider Any Other Matter relating to District Improvement Process

Sheldon reminded everyone that committee members employed by the district cannot make a motion to approve a proposal.

- **Adjourn the meeting – Next meeting February 18, 2021**