

DMAC Members Present: Larry Clements, Dr. Valerie Brimm, Marty Shapiro, Ron White, Thomas Bradwell, Lynne Tucker, Cara Walsh, Melissa Collie (quorum present)

Guests: Pam Moore, Associate Superintendent ( Teaching and Learning), Shana Rafalski, Executive Director, Elementary Education (Teaching and Learning), Paula Texel, Assistant Superintendent (Human Resources), Mike Gandolfo (President PCTA), Marilyn Turman, Mary Schoonover (League of Women Voters, North Pinellas), Eliseo Santana (North Pinellas NAACP)

- Meeting called to order @ 6:03 PM.
- Welcome and Introduction of committee members
- Welcome and introduction of guests
- Moved and 2nd to approve the agenda.
- Moved and 2nd to approve DMAC minutes of January 12, 2017.
- \*\*Marty Shapiro agreed to act as secretary for the evening (and approximates the discussions to the best of his ability).
- Ground Rules adopted as stated in Agenda

New Business item on 3rd grade ELA proficiency and summer learning loss discussion started with Lynne Tucker expressing concerns regarding 3rd grade proficiency and closing the GAP. Where is the starting point and how can it be measured?

Pam Moore and Shana Rafalski began their presentation to address these topics. They expressed that the problem is not a 3rd grade problem. It actually starts before 3rd grade and that the K3 SPOC program was developed to address the issue.

Pam and Shana presented and discussed the school district's Bridging the Gap (revised November 2016) Plan and Special Projects with the committee. 3rd grade is a good measure of the gap with strategies for 3rd grade ELA and Special Projects K-3 that look at the trajectory of all student measures of achievement vs trajectory?

- They are reviewing and researching materials, curriculum, rubrics, interventions, running records and fidelity checks by elementary principals.
- They are also working with community agencies such as: JWB, UCF, USF, YMCA Suncoast, R Club, and the Library Co-op.
- They are also reviewing ways to address challenges specific to black males and how to address them in the classroom:
  - Developing relationships
  - Movement
  - Accommodations
  - Story-Telling
- In addition to providing online reading programs for black students.

A brief discussion occurred on Restorative Justice practices and how referrals have gone down in the last year.

Culture was also discussed as being a fundamental issue as to the slow change. Actions need to change and cultural change needs to start at the top and flow down. But the question is, how do we implement it so that it becomes part of the organization?

Conversations began with Pam Moore and Shana Rafalski who talked on the expanded learning via the Summer Bridge program which is self-funded by the district. Summer Bridge is not a budgeted item in the Pinellas County Schools budget. Hence, no money is available for transportation which has an impact on the kids who need it the most. To address this, Summer Bridge has been expanded to more locations.

- 2017 – Will be held at 42 elementary schools, compared to 35 in 2016
- 2017 - All high schools will be open and many middle schools (except where there is construction activity)

The method of delivery for instruction is changing to accomplish enrichment and remediation through project-based learning, hands-on, and field trips. Each grade level will have a theme.

Discussion also occurred on the stigma associated with “summer school”. Suggestions were made to change how the program is marketed and pivot to it being more academic enrichment, as opposed to academic intervention or remediation.

Resources available for additional academic related matters include Title 1 funds being used for SAT prep through Kahn Academy, and so forth. It was also discussed the number of resources made available to kids. However, parents are not aware of this because the information is not made readily or easily available. It was suggested that these resources be promoted and often.

Paula Texel indicated that performance data will be available for discussion in March.

Due to the length of discussion, Dr. Brimm proposed that the Family and Community Engagement presentation be discussed in the March meeting. The proposal was accepted by the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.