

Perry Schools Discussion Notes

May 15, 2014

PTEC Room 210, 4:10PM:-5:00PM (Approximate Time)

ATTENDANCE

Administration: Bob Bohannon (PTEC), Vickie Carpenter (PTEC), Barb Brouwer (SHS), Rhonda Jones-Jointer (PTEC), Rolland Abraham (PMHS), John Ralston (PA), and Danny Mendez (SES)

PEA: Neil Linville (PMHS), Kyle Hanefeld (GV) Matt Henninger (PMHS), Martha Buehner (MB), Sue Buscemi (WV), Steve Dawson (PMHS), Danielle Brooking(PA), Leslie Preddy (PMMS), Nancy Tatum(PA), and Diane Turpen (PMHS)

Bargaining Update

Although official bargaining cannot begin until August 1 per Indiana law, informal bargaining has begun.

Building Security

All Perry Schools employees need to be mindful of security in their buildings and vigilant in watching hallways, especially at the end of the school day and school year. At one building, a disgruntled, hostile parent gained building access through the office and approached a teacher. Even though we have new security entrances at the elementary level, we still need to watch open doors and take precautionary measures to keep all safe

Election Day security concerns were also discussed. In some buildings, students must pass through areas used for the election, which opens the possibility of the public interacting with students. Teachers had to monitor carefully that this did not happen. Holding elections in public schools is a politically charged issue that presents security challenges for school personnel.

Dress Code Policy

Rhonda Jones-Jointer clarified proposed revisions to the staff dress code policy. The suggested policy was revised to state that excessive or offensive tattoos must be covered and that visible piercings other than pierced ears are not allowed. Small nose piercings are not allowed.

Matt Henninger stated that these changes are not going to be well-received by teachers. Younger teachers are mobile and can move to other districts if they don't like the new policy.

Elementary Grading Scale

Vicki Carpenter had been asked to investigate the higher/more rigorous grading scale at the elementary level. At high school level, the grading scale significantly impacts students as many scholarships are dependent on GPA. The high school grading scale is consistent with other schools in the area. Next year, the secondary and elementary schools will share the same grading scale as listed below:

SCORE	GRADE
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
50-59	F

Barb Brouwer stated that colleges know the reputation of high schools regardless of whether grades are weighted or unweighted.

Final Report Card Procedures at the Elementary Level

- Secondary teachers have until June 2nd to post grades. Continue to print reports like you have previously done.
- Elementary Teachers: This issue was discussed, but please reference the email below as the discussable item has been changed.

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for sharing your concerns in regards to the amount of work that your teachers would have to do with the permanent record.

I appreciate your advocating for their behalf.

With this in mind, we will do the following in regards to the **Permanent Record Card**:

1. **We will not transfer grades onto the Permanent Record Card. We will make a copy of the final report card and put this in the student's permanent record file.** All student data is accessible via Skyward from this point on and can be printed. If a student were to move out of our district, we would print off the Skyward record and copy the Permanent Record card for the past year(s) information.
2. **We will not compute a final Effort Rating.** Each of the nine week periods has the letter grade and the effort rating for that period.

In regards to the **Final Report Card**, please keep this information in mind:

1. Kindergarten procedures will remain the same as we have done for the past (3) quarters. You may print the Kindergarten report cards at your building or you may request these to be printed via Matt Willey. He is happy to print these off whenever you want them.
2. **All grades must be entered into Skyward by Wednesday, May 28th at 12:00 noon.** That means you will need to count students as present for Thursday.
3. The report card **will default to (Promoted)** for all students. You must mark **(Retained)** if student is being recommended for retention and you may mark **(Pending)** if the student's status is pending (such as our students that are awaiting the summer IREAD-3 assessment results.) You would only mark **(Advanced)** if a student were skipping a grade for acceleration purposes. We would need to have conversations about this before using this mark. **This option is not for our students that are being supported in 4th grade, but marked in Skyward as 3rd because of not passing IREAD-3 prior, and then pass IREAD-3 and go to 5th. In this case, you will mark Promoted and would need to manually make sure that his/her grade level was marked correctly.**

Thank you for your help!

Vickie

Mrs. Vickie Carpenter
Assistant Superintendent
MSD Perry Township Schools
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High School Attendance

Dr. Dawson stated there is concern about student attendance inaccuracies in Skyward due to AP tests or field trips. Teachers cannot spend ten minutes per class period taking attendance. He suggested that the attendance secretary mark the attendance in Skyward for students missing class due to testing, field trips, and special programs. Administration will investigate this proposed solution.

Paychex

Employees are still seeing mistakes in payroll, especially in the area of personal and sick days. Beginning July 1, Perry schools will no longer use Paychex Payroll due to dissatisfaction with service. Rhonda Jones-Jointer stated that the Payroll Department will return to processing in house payroll, personal and sick days, and W-2's. Employees should contact payroll before taking the day off if they are unsure of how many personal or sick days they have available.

TAP Update

Media Specialist evaluation tool may be changed next year. Mr. Bohannon is talking with Media Specialists.

Neil Linville stated that TAP implementation is different in every building due to grade level differences and size of the teaching staff. PEA Discussion Team will not discuss TAP as much as in the past. Specific concerns will be addressed and sent to Mr. Bohannon, Mrs. Carpenter and the principals to resolve problems as they arise.

Mrs. Brooking voiced a teacher concern that evaluations can be negatively impacted by technology when it does not work. Further, teachers want peace of mind; they don't want to avoid technology due to fear that it will fail. A blanket statement cannot be made as individual scenarios are all different. Mr. Bohannon stated that evaluators should come back at another time in emergency situations. Mrs. Carpenter stated that evaluators and teachers need to use common sense and deal with problems when they occur.

This was the last meeting for the year. Neil Linville publically thanked Kyle Hanefeld and Rhonda Jones-Jointer for leading meetings and to both teams for their time and discussion.

Kyle Hanefeld thanked Martha Buehner for her years of service on PEA and Perry Township.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Turpen