

Perry Schools Discussion Notes  
February 13, 2014  
PTEC Room 210, 4:10-5:00 (Approximate Time)

### **ATTENDANCE**

Administration: Bob Bohannon (PTEC), Frank Giles (PTEC), Mike Bagley (PTEC), Barb Brouwer (SHS), Rhonda Jones-Jointer (PTEC), Rolland Abraham (PMHS), and Danny Mendez (SES) Dave Rohl (PMMS), and David Henriott (RPE)

PEA: Danielle Brooking (PMS), Neil Linville (PMHS), Kyle Hanefeld (GV) Martha Buehner (MB), Sue Buscemi (WV), Cathee Cullison (SHS), Leslie Preddy (PMMS), Steve Dawson (PMHS), and Diane Turpen (PMHS)

### **Legislative Update**

Neil Linville wants all to be aware of House Bill 1321, primarily targeted for IPS, which could have ramifications for all Indiana school corporations if it passes. He stated House Bill 1321 would allow school districts to partner with non-school entities. The intent of the bill is to help learning in a cost effective way. Unlike charter schools which are defined, this bill could allow school districts to become charter school districts. The fear is that district budget and decision making could be taken over by the non-school entity.

Mike Bagley stated that changes due to the Affordable Care Act will affect Perry Schools. He said that Perry Schools attorney Jim Hamilton warns that Perry Schools will need to offer health insurance to 70% of full time employees by next year. The penalty for not making this change would be \$2000 per employee. Decisions will be made concerning cutting hours of certain employee groups.

Mike Bagley stated that Indiana's new Protected Levy Legislation and property tax caps imposed by Mayor Ballard county-wide are affecting school corporation general funds. The intent of the new state law is to make sure school corporations pay their debts and provide for their pension obligations. However, Indiana school corporations must now set aside funds that in the past were used for transportation and capital projects (building maintenance and technology upgrades). General funds will be used to cover some transportation and capital expenses.

### **Make-up days**

Mr. Bohannon clarified the extended day option for making up instructional time. This option adds of 36 minutes of contractual time to the school day for a designated time period. Teacher day would end at these times: High school 3:36PM, middle school 3:41P.M., and elementary 4:21P.M. Neil Linville commented that it might be good idea to get input from families concerning spring break plans and snow days since comments about how best to make up lost instructional time have been all over the place. No decision has been made.

The Board of Education asked Dr. Giles to have the calendar committee reconvene to reexamine next year's calendar for built in make-up days.

### **TAP update**

On Tuesday, February 18, Neil Linville, a group of teachers representing all levels and the administrative team will meet to discuss positives and negatives of TAP. The last time this group met, many questions were asked, but time did not permit in depth discussion.

Neil Linville asked the administrative team how many evaluations should be completed now. Most teachers should have two evaluations complete awaiting their third. It is possible that some teachers may not have been observed twice yet.

Neil Linville expressed concern that an ISTEP preparation activity may not be structured as a regular lesson and may not be scored as well using the TAP Rubric. Many teachers are preparing for ISTEP at this time of year.

Neil Linville would like administrators to examine what the law says concerning teacher remediation plans. The law refers to teachers being placed an improvement plan for 90 days based on the summative end of year evaluation score. The way assistance plans are used are confusing and not following the intent of the law.

### **Teacher licensure requirements (CPR certification)**

Currently, CPR is required for renewal of all teaching licenses. Suicide prevention class are only required for new licenses not renewals, add-ons, or professionalizing a license. Perry Schools will offer \$30 CPR classes periodically to help teachers meet the CPR requirement.

Teachers need to keep track of their own Professional Growth Points (PGP) for license renewal. Administration is encouraged to keep these records as well. Teachers can upload and keep track of their PGP's on the Indiana Department of Education's Licensing and Verification Information System (LVIS). Some building principals have records of PGP prior to TAP. Cluster meetings count toward PGP's, so sign in sheets are important for documentation and record keeping. Rhonda Jones-Jointer has a spreadsheet of how teachers can earn PGP's. Contact her for more information about earning PGP's.

### **Textbook adoption (secondary schools going digital)**

Elementary textbook presentation was well received by elementary teachers.

Neil Linville asked if the school corporation has the infrastructure to support township wide digital books and if textbooks would be accessible to all students. He also asked if it would be possible to wait a year for book adoption. He stated that teachers are concerned that the technology we have does not work well at times. With more devices, will digital access be better?

Mr. Bohannon stated that the textbook committee is meeting at all levels and would want all questions answered before moving forward to digital books. We would want to know how many devices are available to staff and students as well as bandwidth strength. All options are being examined. Barb Brouwer stated that we need to put into place the solution that fits the building's curriculum needs. Dave Rohl stated that middle school level may have a different perspective since all students will have a digital device provided by Perry Schools. Mr. Bohannon stated that it would be possible to wait.

Concern was also expressed that digital devices may limit what classwork students can do at home if students cannot access the Internet there. Students may be only to see electronic textbooks or digital books at school if they cannot be downloaded onto the device for home use.

Benefits of a traditional textbook stated were that it guides curriculum and vertical overlap is less likely.

### **Upcoming Intersession**

Intersession positions are posted for March 24-27 at all levels. The high school level remediation is targeting math and language arts as well concentrating on ESL students who need to take or retake the ECA. Some SAT prep is offered. All intersession instruction will take place in the morning.

Elementary intersession will take place at Mary Bryan. The focus will be 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who are on the "bubble" for passing ISTEP. Currently, thirty-seven teachers will be required, but additional staff members are on a wait list if more students can attend.

Next meeting March 20, 2014