

EISA

Subcommittee Minutes

12-18-19

In attendance: Chair Tammy Mahoney, Electra Alessio, Jamie Fitzpatrick, Superintendent Tom Ambrose, Director of Academics, Professional Learning and Student Affairs Patty Haynes. High School Principal Brian Stack, Guidance Director Heidi Leavitt. Called to order by Mahoney at 4:48 pm. Minutes of the 11/21/19 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Due to an embargo of all statewide test data from last year, the district continues to be unable to release performance test results. The data impacted includes PACE, NHSAS grades 3-8, Graduation rates, and % gains in demographic cohorts. There is some data on the NHDOE website in iPlatform but the format requires extensive data mining. DOE hasn't made public the reasons for the data embargo, so it's unclear as to when it may be available. It is hoped that it will be available in time for analysis and inclusion in the Annual Report, which is distributed at the Deliberative Session in February. The committee will discuss this further in our January meeting.

Mr. Stack distributed AP program test data (compiled by Mr. Dawson) spanning a 17 year period from 2002 through 2019, for analysis. Prior to 2015, the average passing test scores generally ranged around 50-55% - particularly between 2009-2014. However, since 2015 the average scores have decreased dramatically, to roughly half that. Some changes were made to the program at that time which may help to account for that: a relaxation of the prerequisite enrollment requirements, and making the exam mandatory, which would have increased the number of students taking the exam who may not have been as well prepared as in prior years. Ms. Mahoney also pointed out that classes after 2014 received instruction under the Everyday Math curriculum, which the district is now working to replace. In the effort to improve performance on the AP exams, the administration proposes to raise the expectation of rigor with the addition of

enrollment prerequisites, more practice testing with less reliance on reassessment, and a summer work requirement. We will have further discussion about this at our next meeting.

There was some discussion regarding news items suggesting that many elementary teachers may have a high degree of discomfort teaching math, and some ways to support the district's teachers.

Meeting was adjourned by Mahoney at 5:55.