

School Council Meeting November 17, 2014

Members Present: Mr. Maddox, Mrs. Arnsdorf, Mrs. Byrd, Mrs. Bolton, Ms. Floyd, Ms. Benzor, Ms. McMullen, Mrs. Belcher, Mrs. Myers

Meeting called to order: 7:34 am

Minutes reviewed, approved.

Guest Speaker: Kris Floyd, Coordinator for Assessment Accountability

Georgia Milestones video: Go to Georgia Milestones Assessment System on gadoe.org website. Click on video.

Test is more integrated than before, rather than segmented parts. Five year goal to have all testing online. Constructed response items for ELA, math. Four test sections: ELA, math, science, social studies. It is a change for the faculty, however, kids are digital natives and are not expected to have issues with the change in testing format. Schedule will be adapted, so it will not be five straight days of testing, but testing will occur over a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ week period.

Test is more engaging and provide a better opportunity for students to show what they have learned.

Testing reports will be different: Parents will be provided with a national percentile ranking score, state achievement score, growth score, and lexile score.

CCRPI: 74.7 This is a good score compared to other scores in the state.

Perfect score is 100 points, but state has set it up so that no school will achieve 100 points.

Achievement Score: content mastery (based on CRCT scores), post elementary school readiness (looking at EL students with ACCESS testing, students with disabilities: largest drop in score from previous year. Clarification in the way the state figures the percentage of time for resource or collaboration was helpful in examining the score. Lexile scores are measured in this category, as well as Career Clusters and student attendance. Third category: prediction for high school graduation: students must pass 5 areas on report card as well as 5 areas on CRCT, percent of students exceeding

Progress Score: scores are compared state-wide. Students divided into thirds: one third will always be low growth, one third will be medium growth, and one third will be high growth.

Achievement Gap Score: School average scores are examined. Lowest 25% scores are averaged and then compared to average school scores. The state doesn't want the lowest 25% average scores to be that far off from the school average scores. Points are given for how close the scores are and how much the scores improve. NFE has a wide range of ability and backgrounds which relate to the gap score. Despite low score in this area, teachers did what was best for all students.

Flags: white: not enough students in the subgroup (15 students makes a subgroup), green: met both targets, yellow: met one of the targets, red: didn't meet any target.

NF had one red flag: English learners in ELA

Next CCRPI score will be for last year's school year. CCRPI will be revamped for the following year since there won't be a Georgia Milestones comparison for the Achievement Score section.

Questions:

Why did Georgia design their own test?:

The PARCC test is designed on the New England school year which doesn't apply to Georgia. Georgia has been developing questions for about 5 years and the Georgia test questions will be aligned with the PARCC test. Georgia did not spend the money to purchase rights to the PARCC test. Hopefully, this will keep test from changing every few years.

Does the county have equal technology and keyboarding skills so that there is equitability among county schools?

Instructional technology department is addressing the keyboarding issue. Scorers are being trained so that a typing mistake will not be counted the same as a student that isn't able to answer the questions correctly. Spelling errors are only one part of the test, so this will be calculated within the entire writing score. More focus will be on the "why" part and the content of the writing, rather than the conventions. Responses are not essay questions--they are just a sentence or two.

Scores will not be received until fall for this spring's test.

Old Business:

Title I Parent Meeting on Oct. 25

Success Team Meetings: good participation

Fall ARM session is going well.

Winter ARM: January-March

Saturday Academy: January-March more info coming soon!

New Business:

Reminder meetings: 1/26, 3/31, 5/26 7:30am NFE Data Room

Dolphin Dash: great turnout. Thanks to all that participated!

Success Team Meetings: next set of meetings will be in February

Georgia Parent Surveys: thank you in advance for your participation with this.

Questions:

Are the T-shirts for each grade level a fundraiser?

Suggestion was made to get a class shirt starting in third grade that will be used up through fifth grade.

Color shirts are to identify students in each by class.. It would be difficult to transition from grade to grade because of the way we use the colors for field trips and field day.

Character Day Parties:

Is there a way we could try something different? Parking was an issue, and it was challenging to dismiss bus and car riders.

Maybe focus could be on making the dance the fall event, rather than having a party in the fall. That would allow for more participation at the fall dance.

Because of parking issues, the bus loop will be blocked off for the Holiday Party in December.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 am.