

School Advisory Council

October 25, 2022

Attendance: Pete Myerson, Melissa Richard, Laura Anderson, Christine Stanvick, Jennifer Martinson, TJ Elder, Karen Wiczynski, Julie Murrell

Excused: Prajakta Kale

Mass Department of Education Vision for Schools

- representation of school based committee - extension of the school
- value in site-based decision making - involving the entire community
- go over standards of what's happening in the building/district

Abbot School Updates/News

- Do most parents read it? Some are overwhelmed by the number of emails, most at least peruse it. Bullet points help, not a narrative
- Rounites have gotten in place, very active - movie night
- Mini-grants between \$100-\$200 - encourage people to apply
- Student Council - students wrote their papers
- writing contest from the Library- Dark and Stormy writing
- MCAS results mailed Friday
- Very engaged students
- Field Trips back on the table

School Based Budget Update

- Done before new administration took over
- teacher supplies, textbooks
- each teacher gets around \$300 budget for individual supplies - budget freeze has made teachers nervous about budgeting - needs to be looked into

2021-2022 School Improvement Plan / Update

- Social Emotional
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Teaching and Learning
- one year plan
- making a change - Priority Areas
 - equity work embedded, assess equity in organization of grade levels, realistic opportunities to release the "pressure valve" on students and staff, Westford's Climate Roadmap
- elementary schools will look very similar to one another.
- What could these look like at Abbot
 - equity work embedded in curriculum and instruction
 - Universal Design for Learning
 - Research trainers
 - Professional Development - differentiated
 - Classrooms need the supplies/resources
 - Teacher-leaders to become experts
 - Time for training - not adding something new
 - What is the timetable

- Project Based Learning
 - can't be done in conjunction
 -
- assess equity in organization of grade levels
 - start time
 - building configuration (k-2, 3-5)
- realistic opportunities to release the “pressure valve” on students and staff
- Westford's Climate Roadmap

Plan for 2022-2023 SIP/ School District Improvement Plan Priorities

- Need to differentiate the UDL training for all staff
- Commit 2 to 3 years for UDL training
- Follow up with checkpoints
- Clear district expectations after training
- Plan for new staff with training
- Work on staff's mindset with UDL
- Needs to be measurable
- Trainings could be part of University of Westford
- PBL should not be pushed in at same time
- PBL could be implemented slowly at each grade level / one project a year
- Do we have enough PD for these priorities

Next Meeting - Tuesday, November 29, 2022