

MILLARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Board of Education will meet on Monday, October 9, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. at the Don Stroh Administration Center, 5606 South 147th Street.



Minutes

Committee of the Whole

October 9, 2006

The members of the Board of Education met for a Committee Meeting on Monday, October 9, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Don Stroh Administration Center, 5606 South 147th Street. The agenda for the meeting consisted of

05-06. The goal was surpassed since 41% of students tested. A letter will be sent to recognize and thank the many teachers who met the testing goal. The goal for testing will be increased each year for the next 4 years.

Progress has been made related to AP partially due to scholarship support for testing by the District and the Foundation. Students who receive a “2” or higher on the test are refunded money. Students who cannot pay the initial cost of testing may apply to the Foundation for a scholarship. Mike Kennedy asked how AP test scholarships or funding support are advertised to parents. Brad Burwell complimented the AP program and how it is moving in the right direction. A complete report on AP progress is scheduled for the October 16, 2006, meeting.

Professional Learning Communities:

Dr. Bruckner explained the theory behind the District’s move to Professional Learning Communities and reviewed what are called “tight/loose parameters.” Dr. John Crawford has done analysis of data that Kim Saum-Mills collected related to PLCs. The data shows that teachers have made some serious growth in using professional learning communities, but that there is much more to do to improve. Board members noticed that there were differences in responses from elementary and secondary teachers, with elementary teachers being more positive in their responses. Dr. Bruckner mentioned that having “singleton” teachers have meaningful conversations is more troublesome due to the nature of their positions. Plans are in place to help those teachers have meaningful times to interact.

Personal Learning Plans:

Jon Lopez and Dr. Mark Feldhausen demonstrated two versions of Personal Learning Plans using the teacher Infinite Campus version and the web-based version that is available for student use. The fact that students can access their PLPs from home gives better possibilities for usefulness. It is hoped that teachers and students will grow more proficient in their use of the tools in the future. Martha mentioned that NDE’s Rule 10 requires some sort of career plan for grades 7-12 beginning next year.

Strategic Plans:

Dr. Bruckner gave a brief review of the previous committee work on the “Senior Project” and shared a different example from New Trier (Illinois) High School. Though the specific strategic action plan has not yet been activated, it was agreed that some sort of senior project could have meaningful outcomes for some students. Brad Burwell indicated that he would like to see movement in this direction soon.

The Board reviewed two Superintendent’s goals, and spent time discussing them:

(2C) Develop a plan to address the rapid increase of drug and alcohol use/abuse in our schools.

