

## BUTLER DISTRICT 53: Education Committee Minutes

**Group Purpose:** The purpose of the Education Committee is to ensure a high quality education for all Butler 53 students.

**Date:** April 2, 2019

**Location:** Butler 53 Boardroom

**Time:** 7AM

**Committee Members Present:** Dr. Beatty, Mrs. Biesel, Ms. Read, Dr. Prosen, Ms. Prola, Mrs. Prochaska, Ms. Owen, Mrs. Tarantino, Mrs. Wozny, Ms. Beg

**Housekeeping:** Items related to our December discussion regarding electives/exploratories at BJH:

- **BJH Bell Schedule**
- **FY20 Scheduling Priorities**
- **FY19 Exploratory Preferences**
- Meeting was called to order at 7:01AM.

Curriculum		
Agenda Item	Details	Notes
Elective Offerings		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mrs. Biesel referenced the IL school code to reinforce the decision to increase the number of fine art class offerings in the BJH curriculum</li> <li>● Mrs. Beatty explained that the Board did not vote to decrease art class offerings in the first place</li> <li>● Mrs. Beatty also explained when the General Assembly reconvenes it is likely that required junior high -PE time will be expanded (to 45 min per class)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Because of this, Ms. Read worked to redo schedule option 3 yesterday at the request of Dr. Beatty and Mrs. Biesel in order to comply with this possible change in legislation</li> <li>○ A parent in the audience noted that option 3 is the least favorable for parents</li> <li>○ A parent also noted that option 1 meets all current and pending statutes.                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ms. Read provided a brief overview of what is mandatory and what choices are available in option 1.</li> <li>■ Ms. Biesel met with Dr. Wennstrom yesterday and believes that current elective curriculum course offerings are not tied to learning outcomes.                       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ms. Read explained the elective curriculum is tied to the Standards.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● A parent asked what the new course offerings will look like.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In response to this, Dr. Beatty expressed concern that class sizes have grown and we're spending</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>less on education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A parent pointed out that the student/teacher ratio reported on our IL State Report Card is misleading as it doesn't take into account non certified staff that work with our students.</li> <li>○ Dr. Beatty expressed concern that she believes we have a compliance issue in terms of the fine arts courses currently offered. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Both Dr. Beatty and Mrs. Bieselin expressed concern over a lack of curricular maps provided</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Ms Read provided a copy for review by the committee of a schedule, which incorporates what Dr. Beatty requested yesterday (STEM, music, art, and potential PE increase) - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The schedule includes 7 periods of 45 min (no study hall or exploratories in order to increase time per period)</li> <li>○ A parent expressed concern over eliminating study hall because it's a time for students to meet with their teachers. Are we sacrificing core content and understanding of that content by prioritizing fine arts?</li> <li>○ Mrs. Bieselin recommended reexamining option 3 in order to add back study hall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ms. Read reminded that option 1 (which includes grade-level specific art classes) satisfies all requirements and can be adjusted to include 45 min periods (i.e eliminating passing periods)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● A parent requested an explanation of how students will be placed into electives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ms. Read provided a comprehensive overview of the process which includes students providing a prioritized list of courses and assignments being based on seniority and then a first come, first served basis</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
2019-2020 Schedule		<p>-No recommendation was reached regarding the schedule.  -Mrs. Bieselin will report out to the BOE that there is no consensus and more time is needed.  -Dr. Prosen commented on how this would impact staffing recommendations and hiring processes.</p>

Summer School Opportunities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ms. Prola explained that in March students were invited to participate in extended school year summer opportunities (held off site at Christ Church because of construction projects in the district)</li> <li>● Band Camp info will be offered for students in grades 5-8, and will take place during week of August 5 at BJH</li> <li>● Art Camp will be offered for students 3-8 during week of August 5 at BJH</li> <li>● Dr. Beatty expressed concern over offering these opportunities in August when many families are traveling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dr. Prosen explained this is largely due to facility availability due to construction projects</li> <li>○ Ms. Prola explained a hope that next summer we could offer courses in June instead of August; however, there are construction projects planned</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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Learning		
Agenda Item	Details	Notes
Pending Legislation: PE		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discussed above</li> </ul>
Current School Rankings		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Not discussed</li> </ul>

Open Comments:

- Colleen: How are we moving forward? What is our timeline? What are our goals for next year?
  - Mrs. Bieselin: The best opportunity to educate the whole child in a meaningful way.
  - Follow up question: What is the plan for 19-20?
  - Dr. Beatty: We want to see a schedule with increased fine art offerings and an increase in PE time in anticipation of the new legislation
  - Ms. Read reminded that she presented an option that does that (but, as a parent pointed out, removes study hall).
  - Mrs. Bieselin: I'm going to detail [to the Board] that there is dissention and we are still exploring options
  - Follow up: We can't do this in one year because we have so many different sets of needs
- Mrs. Bieselin requested that Ms Read provide the revised option 1 schedule to which she alluded to earlier in the meeting

- Parent reminded the Board members that they are elected to represent the interest of parents.
- Ellen pointed out that the PE legislation allows for a 2-year implementation if it passes.
- Once again the rushed timeline for this change was questioned.
- It was pointed out that the PTO has raised funds in order to donate resources towards the current elective courses.
- Dr. Prosen: We need direction as this impacts staffing decisions for next year. A recommendation has to come out of this committee in order to move forward.
- Mrs. Bieselin: I am not comfortable making a firm recommendation without seeing the revised option 1 schedule with times included.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:25AM
- Next proposed meeting date and time: 5/7/19 at 7 a.m. (Mrs. Bieselin explained future meeting times may alternate between 7am and 4pm)