

# MINUTES

## Curriculum Committee Meeting June 24, 2020

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### In Attendance

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B. Fickes, A. Whittington, N. Cunningham, C. Friedl, I. Turpin, C. Morris, D. Holmes, E. Williams, F. Williams, J. Steward, J. Hines, J. Mitchell, K. Hodges, M. Brown, M. Gonzalez, N. Tarala, L. Pietraszewski, R. Penman, R. Peterson, W. Russel, F. Bilotto, S. Jones, W. Dendler, T. Porter, B. Beilfuss, L. Cruz, T. Ratliff, C. Surina, J. Lewis

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### Report by Shaniqua Jones about Virtual Safe Space and SEL

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Dr. Jones has been working with the community and has been working this summer to create a virtual safe space for students, parents/guardians, community members, and staff. This safe space has been able to share virtual resources including Covid 19 testing, food pantries, voter registration, etc. The other part that has been a mission is to address the Social Emotional Learning of the community, which will be addressed through Google Classroom continuing to working on Restorative Justice, using scenarios, quizzes. This will give an opportunity to network and be influential within our community.

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### District E-Learning Plan presented by Pat Fortier

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There is a draft that is currently 41 pages. The Faculty Association had it presented and gave thoughts and suggestions. The District E-Learning Plan Committee is chaired by Joe Janowick and Pat Fortier. The plan was created with a collaboration of over 100 teachers and administrators from all programs and buildings. The technology committee members attended all other committee meetings to get recommendations of different items and various aspects of remote and blended situations. The situations include deans, counselors, psychologists, librarians, etc. We will always prefer in-person/face-to-face learning with interaction with the teacher. The next step is to have the plan reviewed by the committees. The final stages will have the E-Learning plan go to the community and school board for approval.

The plan will be communicated to students and community members by being posted on the district website, every social media account, and will be emailed to all valid email address of students and parents that we have. Suggestions made were to have the plan on Facebook and Twitter Live so that we can answer questions, include it on the YouTube pages of the schools, include on the registration website.

We did purchase 4500 Chromebooks to distribute to students. We are looking into purchasing 500 T-Mobile hotspots for families by request which will be able to connect up to 15 devices. The local libraries also have free Wi-Fi for students.

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### Semester Two 2020 Grade Report presented by Rob Penman

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These reports compare the IP rate for semester 2 to the failure rate of semester 2 from last year (2018-2019). Across the district there are significant drops of non-passing rates.

Thornridge: 36% (341) of students got 4 or more IPs for quarter 4 meaning they did less than half of the work; 99 students got an IP (did less than half of the work) for all of their classes.

English/Reading/Speech: 17% decrease in failure rate

Math/Business: 28% decrease in failure rates  
Science/CTE: 25% decrease in failure rates  
Social Studies/Fine Arts/Foreign Language: 30% decrease in failure rates  
PE/FACS: 32% decrease in failure rates

Thornton: 36% (545) of students got 4 or more IPs for quarter 4 (meaning they did less than half of the work in those classes); 66 students got an IP (did less than half of the work) for all of their classes.

English/Reading/Speech: 27% decrease in failure rate  
Math/Business: 17% decrease in failure rates  
Science/CTE: 46% decrease in failure rates  
Social Studies/Fine Arts/Foreign Language: 17% decrease in failure rates  
PE/FACS: 62% decrease in failure rates

Thornwood: 26% (458) of students got 4 or more IPs for quarter 4 meaning they did less than half of the work; 55 students got an IP (did less than half of the work) for all of their classes.

English/Reading/Speech: 37% decrease in failure rate  
Math/Business: 17% decrease in failure rates  
Science/CTE: 38% decrease in failure rates  
Social Studies/Fine Arts/Foreign Language: 33% decrease in failure rates  
PE/FACS: 66% decrease in failure rates

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### Division Leader Updates presented by Division Leaders

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Math/Business presented Jennifer Mitchell: Year 3 of the movement towards an integrated to math will be running. Summer content institute will be running for the development of that curriculum. Teachers met through Google Meet and compiled resources. There is an E-learning content institute that will get together and look at different e-learning platforms that can be used as extra supports throughout the school year, and develop lessons utilizing those platforms.

Science/CTE presented by Cindy Morris: Biology, chemistry and physics are updating the curriculum and looking hard at interactive platforms for lab activities, and will be useful with one-on-one technology. The electives are undergoing a lot of revisions to ensure that the assessments are organized and accessible to everyone on Atlas. The bug focus to be ready to start school however we start.

Social Studies/Fine Arts presented by Nick Tarala: Social Studies had summer content institutes occurring and are focusing on preparing for remote or e-learning based on what happens in the fall. World Languages and Fine Arts are working on curriculum for the third level.

ELA presented by Jarita Steward: There has been a continuation of the work done on the past couple of years in Atlas to update curriculum. Librarians are working on how to support the schools through e-learning.

PE/FACS presented by Carol Friedl and Marilu Gonzalez: Physical Fitness is looking at curriculum needs for e-learning, and created a shared Google Drive. They are going to be looking at the three options, and keeping locomotor, psychomotor and social emotional in curriculum. Will work on incorporating technology in curriculum including TeamBuildr.

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## E-Learning Professional Development presented by Chuck Surina and Jasara Hines

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Over the summer, lots of professional development has been offered to the staff of District 205. There has been a Google Classroom set up, that includes a schedule of the optional PD opportunities that staff can attend. PD sessions have been about EdPuzzle, Kahoot, Kahn Academy, Albert, Bitmogi, Screencastify, etc. in addition to the various Google platforms; these include Google Docs, Slides, Meet, etc. One-on-one support is also offered to all staff. They just need to sign-up for a time slot.

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## Resilience Team Update presented by Brett Fickes

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We are still the leading High School District in the Southland Coalition for Resilience, with great leadership and lots of active and passionate members. The committee engaged in a virtual conference and discussed ways on how to incorporate and engage our District 205 families. The biggest takeaway is to continue to build trust within our communities, and continue to support them.

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## Open Forum

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What plans do we have for students who did not engage in the Spring e-learning? District 205 has been reaching out to the students now during the summer through credit recovery and by personally reaching out through the schools and working on creating wrap-around programs including tutorial services after school. The state has set up programs to identify and reach students who we have not heard from since March.