

PbL Steering Committee
Oct. 4, 2016

1. Summer PD review

Becky Brown reported on summer professional development for teachers. Rigor Taxonomies and Summative Evidence, Defining Objectives and Formative Feedback, and Backward Planning Design were offered multiple times. Attendance of teachers and administrators is as follows:

Rigor: 99

Defining Objectives: 106

Backward Design and Planning 115

We surpassed previous numbers for attendance.

Teachers received time to work on their own based on the number of sessions they attended.

2. Curriculum Leaders Retreat

Summer work was the springboard for the Curriculum Leaders work. The group met at the end of August and processed how to continue the work in small groups especially with an eye towards people that did not attend summer PD. The Curriculum Leaders are working on instruction and assessment in every content area to develop their work plan for the year. As in past years, all teachers in the district are engaged in PD around PbL during the school year in grade level/department meetings and on early release days.

3. PbL Steering Cte Goals

The committee had a general discussion around goals for the year.

Discussion touched upon public, practice and policy. We will work to formalize the discussion into a number of goals and bring this back to the committee for review.

Public

- Develop a great SPSHS school profile
- Continued and consistent information sharing to prevent miscommunication
- Ongoing parent/student meetings on how to use JR portal to support and encourage learning
- Inform colleges of the difference between proficiency based transcript and traditional 4 point GPA

Practice

- Trending
- What is a good instructional practice in a PbL system
- Continue to support teachers with their work at defining rigor levels-especially with addition of 3.5 at high school
- Continue PD at all grade levels
- Seeing grade level continuum by strands is helpful

- Include students in conversations-some type of venue for students to voice concerns without fear of repercussions
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Policy

- Co-curricular eligibility (for example: Starting year with 2.0 or lower -how does it impact athletic eligibility)
- Added 3.5 for HS-is this policy now? Any anticipated changes

4. Communications Highlights

We reviewed transcripts and profiles from Casco Bay HS, Poland HS and our draft SPHS transcript. Discussion pointed to the need to continue to get the word out regarding when the transcript will change so that parents and students are aware. The four point grading scale will be reflected on the SPHS transcript starting the 2017-18 school year. For the class of 2018 this means the first three years of their high school transcript will use the 100 point scale and their senior year will use the four point scale. Our school profile next year will need to explain this to colleges and universities. Further discussion focused on the need to communicate this broadly through school websites and other school communication.

Further discussion pointed to the need to work closely with colleges to get feedback on our transcript and to education colleges regarding this change.

Comments related to SPHS Profile: We are the only school that lists co-curriculars. Should we take it off? How can we present information in a more graphical format? How do we provide a clear picture about the rigor of our program of studies and how students performed? In a future meeting we will bring a revised draft SPHS profile for review and discussion.

5. Future meetings

No meeting Nov. 1 due to scheduling issues

Next meeting Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2016, 2:30-4:00, SPHS room 232