



May 19, 2017

TO: Members of the Educational Evaluation Committee
Town Clerk

**Educational Evaluation Committee Meeting
Tuesday, May 16, 2017, 5:15 p.m.
Superintendent's Large Conference Room**

Present: Dan Boisvert, Carrie Baxter, Colleen Rix, Laurie Pallin, Sandra Berardy was absent.

Guests: Principal Jeffrey Theodoss, Athletic Director, Phil Orbe, Principal Heather Sangermano, Rallou Clark and Meryl Ohrnberger, Teachers from Palmer Building.

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:16 pm by Chair Carrie Baxter.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Report on Palmer Students' Academic Growth

Principal Heather Sangermano presented STAR reading and math data from Sept to Jan for Palmer students and compared their growth to that of students at Montville High School.

Student Growth Percentiles and growth in Scaled Scores and Grade Equivalents were provided. Students at Palmer demonstrated at least equal growth to the Montville High School Students in both reading and math using all metrics provided.

Palmer student work on the district-wide problem solving goal and shared MHS / Palmer argumentative writing goals was presented. Meryl DeCarolis discussed the writing program at Pathways and presented sample essays on analysis of Lord of the Flies which exceeded the standard on the MHS average writing rubric. Heather Sangermano also provided sample written arguments on immigration completed by PBL students.

Rallou Clark discussed PBL and Pathways math program. Students use the same curriculum and texts as MHS. The focus is on problem solving, and Rallou provided student work on evaluating linear functions connected to science of concussions. The students chose individual variables, designed experiments, plotted data drawing lines of best fit, and analyzed this data. Students engage actively in the revision process in all of their work.

Heather described the use of Edgenuity, a national program, for credit recovery, which Palmer has supplemented by adding a rigorous performance task which students must complete in order to earn credits. Using this process one student has earned four online credits thus far this year. Plans are in place for next year to align all student coursework and assessment to CTE Power Standards in order to

demonstrate preparation for College/Career.

Carrie Baxter asked how long the current programs have been in place at Palmer and Heather responded that PBL is in its fourth year, Pathways is in its third year. Carrie asked about the number of Regular Education students at Palmer was told there are currently twelve. Carrie commended this PBL option for MHS students. Dan Boisvert asked about recruiting efforts and Heather responded that it is a long process to break the years of stigma that the program has received.

4. Athletic Participation Report:

Phil Orbe reported that during the 2016-2017 school year we saw typical participation, with the exception of boys and girls track which was higher than usual. When looking at the number of unique athletes, there were more males than females which is also typical throughout the state. The overall participation rate was 57% this year, last year the rate was 59%. Cheerleading will soon be recognized by the CIAC as a sport, and Phil has added it to this year's participation data.

Despite dropping student enrollment, participation of athletes is increasing. MHS is promoting three sport athletes rather than having students concentrate on only one sport. To incentivize participation in different sports, the program gave out eighty-eight shirts to three sport athletes. Phil also recently met with the students from Tyl and discussed the lifelong benefits of being an athlete and being part of a team. We have 360 unique athletes in district.

5. MHS Course Enrollment Report, Jeff Theodoss:

Implemented strategies to run courses every other year to counteract low enrollment numbers. Jeff provided a list of courses with under 10 and 15 students currently enrolled. Since 150 students have not yet been scheduled, the number of under-enrolled courses is expected to decrease significantly.

6. Future Agenda Items:

- Update on Personal Finance Course, feedback from students and teachers

7. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn at 5:55 pm

Proposed by: Colleen Rix

Seconded by: Dan Boisvert

Vote: All in Favor (vote 3-0)