REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 20 BOARD OF EDUCATION Special Meeting Minutes June 26, 2025



Curriculum Committee

Committee MembersMargaret Hunt, ChairScott PottbeckerDiane BarnesAshley Westfall

1. <u>Call to Order</u> The Curriculum Committee meeting held at Lakeview High School and via teleconference was called to order 5:45 p.m. by Margaret Hunt.

Members present: Margaret Hunt, Chair, Diane Barnes, and Ashley Westfall.

Also present: Jeffrey Villar, Ph.D., Superintendent, and Julia Cardillo, Chief Financial Officer.

Absent: Scott Pottbecker.

- <u>Approval of Curriculum Committee Special Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2025</u> Ashley Westfall made a motion for the Approval of Curriculum Committee Special Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2025. Diane Barnes seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3. <u>Initial Discussion of Reorganizing the District's Curriculum Development and Implementation</u> <u>Process</u>

Dr. Villar shared his initial thoughts on Curriculum Development at the elementary, middle and high school levels, calling on support from Lead Teachers, Instructional Area Coordinators, and Department Chairs. His initial thoughts are to plan quarterly curriculum meetings, request and review teacher feedback, address questions/concerns, provide professional development and connect teacher needs, and professional development with the budget cycle. Dr. Villar spoke about his vision for staffing these roles, potential revised job descriptions, along with providing stipends. He addressed questions from the committee regarding the location of the former Curriculum Coordinators and if he was able to relocate them in different elementary schools, and questions regarding Instructional Area Coordinators at the middle school. He also commented earlier during discussion that he is holding weekly meetings with the Elementary and Secondary Principals to work on the curriculum model.

Dr. Villar closed this topic saying Region 20 is a brand-new district; we are merging things from two districts and need to weave together and create our own unique system. He believes we have staff who are capable of producing really solid work.

4. Update on NEASC Vision of the Graduate

Dr. Villar commented, the Vision of the Graduate is an initiative that has been in place for a very long time. Conceptually the district identifies what it wants its graduates to know, be able to

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describe it and build backwards providing experiences to students that when they reach graduation, they are able to demonstrate these skills.

Margaret Hunt commented "she will jump right in" and shared that the elementary schools are doing a great job with P.A.W.S. and she is impressed by the consistency across the elementary schools. Dr. Villar added the middle school also has P.A.W.S. with an awesome paw displayed on the wall in the entrance way.

Dr. Villar gave a high-level overview of the five core competencies of the Vision of a Graduate: Creative Problem Solvers, Empathetic Individual, Responsible Citizen, Effective Communicator, and Resilient Worker with measures of success. For example, a Resilient Worker, perseveres through challenges. He added that his experience in other districts is the Vision of the Graduate is helpful with a NEASC visit as it is often used as "evidence" you are doing the work. If this work is done with fidelity and implemented deeply it can become transformative and impactful which means it will take time and will take many years.

Dr. Villar added this work was led by a teacher whose position was eliminated resulting in another gap the district will have to fill.

Dr. Villar closed by saying these are preliminary thoughts on these topics and there is a lot of work to accomplish.

5. <u>Adjournment</u> There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Escobar Secretary, <u>pro-tem</u>