

Teacher Advisory Committee **1.16.18 -- 3:30 p.m.**

Present:

Cartner, Larry	Lilley, Linda	Worrell, T.J.
Lassiter, Steve	Nixon, Chad	Reid, Antoinette
Sanders, Joanne	Riddick, Bethany	Hawkins, Melvin
Adams, Tiffany	Rountree, Eugene	Fonville, Adrian
Benton, Rachel	Santana, Myraida	Thompson, Michael
Boone-Thompson, Elsie	Towell, John	Jones, Ainslie
Comstock, Ed	Stokely, Christina	White, Simona
Davis, Linda		Fyffe, Amy
Fulford, Monica	Floyd, Frankie	
Harrell, Jessica	Floyd, Toni	
Hughes, Sheila	English, Sara	

Dr. Cartner welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Dr. Cartner reviewed a proposed plan to make up time missed to date due to inclement weather. He discussed the proposed plan of adding 10 minutes to each instructional day in the second semester and to change all early release days to regular days. The district currently needs 1 additional hour to meet the state requirement of 1025 hours of instruction and adding 10 minutes to each day would provide an additional 14.3 hours – this would give some “banked” time for inclement weather. He discussed possible “days” available for making up time (February 26, March 30, spring break).

Dr. Cartner discussed calendar requirements based on State law for students (1025 hours of instruction or 185 days) and 10-month employees/teachers (215 days of employment). He indicated that the district is working with non-certified staff to try and prevent employees from losing pay for days missed by allowing them to make up time. Child nutrition employees will be impacted by the loss of days as they will not be able to make up time due to scheduling/funding issues.

Dr. Cartner discussed the pros/cons of Saturday School.

Dr. Cartner asked for thoughts/comments/suggestions and questions that principals/council members anticipate colleagues asking.

There was discussion regarding adding 15 minutes to allow for additional banked time and discussion about when to add the time (beginning or end of day). Adding time at the beginning of the day would impact bus routes along with child nutrition employee hours and was not recommended.

There was discussion about marketing the additional minutes to parents and staff and Mr. Lassiter cautioned everyone to not say that it would guarantee preservation of Spring Break. Additional weather issues could impact that time.

A principal asked about make-up time for instructional assistants and Mr. Lassiter indicated principals will need to determine what is best for their building. He indicated that since instructional assistants do not work on optional workdays, those days should not be used for make-up time.

Dr. Cartner shared that he plans to send a letter to legislative representatives to ask if days missed can be waived.

Dr. Cartner asked principals and council members to share the proposed plan with staff and that principals let him know by noon on Friday, January 19th the decision for their school (add 10 minutes or add 15 minutes).

Principals were excused from the meeting and Principals released at 3:58 p.m. and time provided for review of responses to questions submitted prior to meeting.

Dr. Cartner asked for additional questions.

A question was asked about benchmark scores and if scores from all schools could be shared in order for teachers to compare their results with other schools.

Dr. Sanders responded that benchmark scores are an opportunity for improvement and should be used for the students sitting in the teacher's classroom. They can use the results to break down to a standard. She indicated it is important for teachers to dig deep and look at other assessments. District grade level meetings provide opportunities for teachers to discuss data.

A question was asked about year-round school and if it would lessen the impact of inclement weather days.

Dr. Cartner responded that the calendar requirements would still be the same – just broken out differently.

Dr. Cartner discussed the forecast for snow on Wednesday, January 17th and indicated he will make a decision on the school day when he has updated information.

Dr. Cartner asked council members to help others understand the factors (safety, road conditions, fueling of buses, child nutrition, schedules, etc.) taken into account regarding delays/closings/early releases if they hear complaints. He indicated that frequently people that are upset do not understand everything that goes into making the decisions

The meeting adjourned 4:08 p.m.