

Alignment Jackson High School Committee Meeting
Tuesday, December 16, 2014
JPS Professional Development Room

Meeting **commenced** 9:00 am

Committee Members Present: Freddrick Murray, Rebecca Starling, Curnis Upkins III, Kyle Bray, Tameka Garrett, Carolyn Jolivette, Stephanie Satcher, Tanya Cole, Ifey Anyanwu, Tabitha Kenney, William Trammell, Wendy Shenetelt, Tasha Martin, Chalandria Walker, and Deyanna Walker

Guest: Dr. Alfred Boyd-Magnolia

Welcome and Introductions

Academies of Jackson Update

Dr. Murray stated that the Freshman Academies are going well. Dr. Sargent is currently working on comparing the numbers from last year to this year. At the present time disciplinary referrals at the high schools are down. We are also working on conducting a teacher perception study. The Career Exploration Fair was a success and the survey has been distributed so we're awaiting the student's opinions. The survey will close on tomorrow and during the next meeting we will be able to talk about the student's perception of the career exploration fair.

Professional Development

Dr. Murray stated that it's often stated that very critical and new initiative fail because people are not trained. We cannot assume that people just know how to do these things without being trained. Presently we have professional development trainings planned to help with the transitions of implementing the academies. The first PD for 2015 will be January 6th/7th and Jan and 12th/13th for teaching in teams. The district will also continue working with Apple/MacBook as they continue going into the schools.

Discussion-Issues with PD

Ifey stated that the training is not bad but we have a personnel problem. Personnel is tough and trying to get teachers to cover classes is difficult.

Anthony stated that some logistical challenges are still being worked out and the leadership has dictated that this must be done. The training must take place so we are going to have some chaos but it's necessary. The dates are already out there so, please communicate with your faculty. Dr. Murray will resend the email to the staff.

Career Academic Themed Academies

Next year we begin the career academies and the students will make a choice and counselors will start to place students into academies. The curriculum will focus on everything that is built around the career of the student's choice. The curriculum will be used as a guide for the students and it provides options for other things they can do.

What are the provisions and can the students transfer to other academies?

We are in the process of structuring some programs that will address those issues. We don't want students to continuously transfer out of programs. Currently we don't have the transit system to support this system. We need to start working on answering that question more

effectively. We are at the beginning stages of developing this and factors outside of JPS will not allow that to happen.

As the academies grow the themes will change and every school will have a health related and STEM academy at all of the schools.

Hinds CC

Tanya stated that she and Mr. Johnson had a meeting with Hinds community college. She stated that the Hinds faculty is very interested in working with JPS. Since we all have a common goal which is making sure that all students are prepared for college. Therefore Hinds CC would like to help to facilitate this process since many students are still not exactly ready for college. As a group we talked about inviting faculty out and what students should be ready for when they enter college. Currently JPS is there largest feeder school to Hinds CC and they would like to restructure the relationship with JPS. They are interested in coming to the table and having some conversations and make a shift. They have volunteered the use of the faculty and college credit. They are working to develop a program to work with students and offer college credits Many students taking development courses and these courses can be offered over the summer at JPS. This will allow the students to take courses without depending on financial aid which is sometimes exhausted because of the developmental courses.

Entergy proposal

We have reached out to Entergy through the relationship we built during the CEF. We approached them with the proposal for the adoption of a school. They would have the entire school and focus on engineering, lineman, and different areas. Academies of Entergy and they would provide staff and equipment. It is currently under review and there is also a model for it in Orlando. The students leave this academy and go directly to work.

Jackson State-Dr. Walters we had conversations with him about this process. We are working with aligning what's happening at Jackson State. They are trying to increase the number of meteorologist that come through Jackson State. We have met with the state department and they have volunteered a program for free. We are leveraging our collective impact

Your perception of the academies?

Trammell: The 9th graders are improving at a more rapid rate and getting more involved. They have bonded as a grade level. Primarily because this is where we are focusing. Everything that they do is separate from what we do as a school. They begin the day with a motivational meeting and a few little sayings. They understand that this is an endeavor that started with them and as this process develops I expect this to grow.

Review/Approval ITP Submissions

Magnolia Alliance for Change

We were founded by four people

The group is comprised of college professors and who created a program for mentorship and changing mindset. We are trying to counteract Erickson's Theories

Do you BOO?

Owning who you are

We are looking to go into in of the schools

We will need a sound system

We are using former students

We work with students whom have recently completed high school and they discuss how they foreclosed on their identity and have worked to get back to their identity

Is there a curriculum? We do have one

It's a group activity and then will work one on one with the students

Do you work with students? Initially for this year we will start with a quick off plan
Once or twice a quarter
Kick off and then coming in with smaller groups
Will these students have to be identified as problem students? No, the first time it will be the entire group and then we can do some one on one
Trammell: This should be an initiative and this is something that all of our students struggle with so that is for everybody. It takes that constant exposure and it has to be a continuous process. 2x a week because we are working with college students
We can work with 1 or 2 schools initially
Not taking on all 8 so that they have the frequency
Would you want to pilot this? This is definitely an option because we have all worked in the school district.
Instead of an initiative maybe a pilot?
We just want to get in and build a relationship with the schools
Callaway will pilot the program and we can get with Ms. Martin and work out the details, logistics for college students, and setting up a schedule
There is also a component in helping the teachers to work on communication with the parents

ITP Accepted

Resubmit the ITP response and assist them with formulating the plan
Accept the ITP with the understanding it is a pilot
Carolyn made a motion to approve the ITP with the understanding of developing a pilot and Yolanda Kirkland made a second motion.
Committee approved

Celebrations

82% of the MacBooks have been distributed to the students have them
357 have not been distributed out of 2200
100% completion mid to late Jan
Wingfield has opened up Saturday academies/SATP 9-12 retesters

Meeting adjourned: 10:36 a.m.