

3x5 IMPLEMENTATION STEERING COMMITTEE
Wed., Apr. 16, 2014
Parr Room
8:00-9:00

Report

Committee members present

Shelley Berman
Randy Bernstein
Casandra Kamens
Jon Lauch
Oscar Loureiro

Laurie Moses
Simone Sangster
Carmen Urbina
Cydney Vandercar

Welcome

Laurie Moses welcomed committee members to the meeting. The group reviewed the report from the meeting held Thurs., March 20.

Updates & Reports

3x5 Implementation Team

Casandra Kamens reported on the work of the 3x5 Implementation Team.

- The team heard from Abby Lane, ELD program coordinator, and discussed the best ways to schedule ELD students. Abby also reviewed the Essential Skill requirements for ELD students with the committee and getting information about the students that confirms the degree to which the students are on track for meeting ES requirements.
- The team discussed IB science in regards to the 3x5. IB science standards are changing, and the current practice of combining IB science and AP science needs to be reviewed; it is possible that it is no longer possible to combine the two. The IB change will be implemented in 2015-16. A group of administrators and teachers are discussing the impact of the change and looking at how the district will respond to it.
- Casandra said she reported to the team that the board is interested in an assessment of the implementation of the 3x5. The team is interested in having any assessment taking sooner than later.
- The team discussed aspects of the calendar, especially in relation to state requirements for instructional hours. Shelley mentioned that the board is interested in having a vacation the week of Thanksgiving Day. Casandra mentioned that the team was interested in having a preparation day the first day of the trimesters.

Randy commented that the 3x5 gains instructional hours over the 4x4 and the AB schedules.

Carmen suggested that this point be publically made so that the advantages of the 3x5 about this are known.

Oscar commented that the 3x5 offers more hours per credit earned.

Laurie asked Casandra what the team's reaction was to giving principals permission to step away from the team's recommendation for length of terms for AP and IB courses. Casandra said that the team understood and supported the notion that there be flexibility on this. Laurie commented that it is important that the Implementation Team continue to feel empowered to make recommendations and understand that principals are looking to the team for suggestion and guidance.

High school experience

Randy Bernstein reported that high school assistant principals across the district are working with the Department of Technology to begin forecasting. Schools are re-developing forms so that the forecasting process will fit into the 3x5 system. Casandra commented—and Randy agreed—that there is much more communication now among assistant principals about forecasting and scheduling. Casandra said that the processes from one school to the next will be highly similar as a result.

Randy said that the schools are looking at how to complete state testing. The old systems for having students take required state tests do not work the same way on the 3x5, and new ways of doing this are being organized and implemented.

Randy also reported that some parents are concerned about what is not being covered at South Eugene HS, now that time in a course is less on the 3x5 than on the 2x7. Parents have indicated to him that they are interested in knowing what the changes are (i.e., what is not being covered now) in case they want to take steps to have their students get that instruction on a private basis. Randy said a possibility could be an enrichment course, probably in the summer, for students who would like to have additional instruction in a specific area.

Student experience

Carmen commented that one of the students remarked that next year the 3x5 would be the "new normal."

Moving Towards 2014-15

Shelley Berman reported that the district has been in contact with Ed Northwest about conducting an assessment of the 3x5 and its implementation in District 4J. Basically, he said, the assessment would aim to draw conclusions as to the degree to which the district had met its objectives in its change to the 3x5. The board has decided to postpone this assessment until sometime in 2014-15.

Laurie asked the group to consider the Steering Committee continuing to meet next year. She said she'd like to have suggestions on what topics or issues might comprise the committee's work then.

Submitted by
Larry Brown