

SYSTEMS ACCOUNTABILITY MINUTES

Tuesday, December 18, 2007
Administrative Services Boardroom

Present: Paul Meyer, Len Rothlisberger, Gretchen Bensen, Maren Hagen, Doug Learmont, Carrie Fowler, Marlo Gangi, Jodi Weston, Judy MacAlpine, Eugene Brandt, Lora Mathison, Eric Northard

Absent with Notice: Ruth Tatter, Beth Bily, Connie Braiedy, Joan Bibeau

EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT SYSTEMS:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. The minutes of the November 27 meeting were approved as presented. No additions to the agenda; Bigfork English will report first.

HIGHEST STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:

Bigfork English

- Eric Northard presented
- Advanced Placement English is the only elective in the department (about ½ of the students take the course)
- There is an advanced placement audit; this is needed for course approval
- Funds are received through the Lions club's pull-tabs (if they don't do pull-tabs, no dollars are generated)
- Help is needed with Title funding qualifications; there is a lot of paperwork required and support is needed
- A discussion and comparison occurred on Advanced Placement versus International Baccalaureate

Math K-12

- Len Rothlisberger, Gretchen Bensen and Maren Hagen presented
- Changes have occurred in course offerings from the previous Core I, II and III courses offered
- Enrollments are high in some middle school classes (there is a cap in the advanced classrooms)
- The district's MCA II math scores are above the state average (we are low in special education math)
- Students are placed in pods based on their test score. Should another measurement or test be added?
- A study hall is needed to help students
- We need volunteers to help students with math. Suggestions included utilizing Math Masters or math tutors to help
- Pre-algebra 8 needs to be added to class counts on the report submitted (item 3)
- New math standards have been set; are they aligned with the new curriculum? We are using two next curriculums at the middle level.
- At the high school level, class offerings are listed in a more traditional track. Grand Rapids High School does offer IB and College in the Schools (CITS) college-prep courses for seniors. There are more than 30 students in a class.
- American College Test (ACT) scores are above the state average. The district's MCA II math scores are slightly above the state average.
- We are facing transition issues with the new McDougal Littell math series. There are new teaching reports and styles. This series is more traditional and in-line with other schools'

