



August 12

2020

REPORT OF THE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE

The Student Achievement Committee (SAC) met on Friday, August 7, 2020, at 2:00 PM via the Blue Jeans Video Conferencing Tool.

VIRTUAL ATTENDEES

Student Achievement Committee Members

Chairperson Pamela Bowers, Mike Moroski, Ryan Messer

Administration/Staff

Laura Mitchell, Superintendent; Tianay Amat, Deputy Superintendent; Susan Bunte, Assistant Superintendent; Dan Hoying, General Counsel; Justin Leach, Director of Testing; Shauna Murphy, Assistant Superintendent; Dawn Williams, Mathematics Manager, Curriculum; Elizabeth Wolf, Science Health and Physical Education Manager

ACT Updates for 2020-2021 School Year

The Administration will do an update on graduation at the October 2, 2020, Policy Committee meeting.

Mr. Leach updated the Committee on a summary of the Spring July 2020 State ACT Test Results. The report covered third year students and fourth year students who missed taking the ACT in the third year.

The report included data on the following:

- Average Composite Score: 5 Years of Testing
- Percent of Students Meeting 3 or 4 College Readiness Benchmark Scores: 5 Years of Testing
- ACT Test Section Scores- 5 Year Trend
- ACT Test Results by Race/Ethnicity
- Spring 2020 ACT Results and Five-Year Trend Data by CPS School

The Committee expressed concerns about the numbers between black and white, large disparities, increase in composite score being less than the goal.

Deputy Superintendent Amat reported that due to the “beefing up of the curriculum, the District discontinued test prepping last year, and did see a gain due to increasing curriculum.”

A copy of the report is available in the Board office and upon request.

ACT National Testing – 2021- 2021

Mr. Leach informed the group about the following:

ACT National Testing Updates

- ACT manages national testing on weekends.

- Three national test dates have been added for a total of 8 national dates for fall testing. The updated fall 2020 ACT national test schedule:
 - Saturday, September 12 (existing)
 - Sunday, September 13 (non-Saturday, existing)
 - Saturday, September 19 (new)
 - Saturday, October 10 (new)
 - Saturday, October 17 (new)
 - Saturday, October 24 (existing)
 - Sunday, October 25 (non-Saturday, existing)
 - Saturday, December 12 (existing)
- Per ACT: “Fall 2020 testing will include the same screening and social distancing requirements for students and test center staff that were successfully implemented for the June national test date, administered in 45 states.”
- “We recognize this decision, while helpful to students in need of scores, asks our test center administrators and their staff to give more of their already limited time over several weekends,” said Godwin. “We encourage them to do what is best for themselves and their communities in terms of commitments to opening up test centers in their areas.”
- Test Format Updates: September 2020
 - Superscore for students who have taken the ACT test more than once
 - Four free fee waivers offered to qualifying students (previously 2)
 - Individual test section testing AND online testing delayed until 2021.

ACT State Testing Updates (Spring 2021- 3rd Year HS Students)

- The State of Ohio funds an ACT administration for each high school student during their H.S. career through the ACT State Testing Program.
 - CPS administers the ACT State funded test in February/March each year to students in their 3rd year of High School
- ACT Standard Time Test in CPS High Schools will be February 23rd, 2021
 - Makeup Standard Time Test Date = March 9, 2021
- Students taking the ACT with accommodations will test between 2/23/21-3/5/21.
 - Makeup Accommodations Window = 3/9/2021-3/19/21
- Testing Department is working with ITM to explore the possibility of administering the test online in schools in February.
 - Benefits of Online testing:
 - Flexible administration dates:
 - Six weekday test dates within the initial 2-week window.
 - Examinees who miss a scheduled test date may test on one of the other available dates within the window.
 - Reduced time for staff in preparing for test dates.

Efforts to Reduce Gaps for English Language Learners (ELL) and Students with Disabilities

Assistant Superintendent Bunte updated the Committee on district data, where gaps are occurring, and strategies put in place to address literacy gaps.

The presentation also included information about:

- Early Literacy Work with the University of Cincinnati
- Adolescent Literacy Work in High Schools
- Expanding Tier 2 ELA Resources in Intermediate Grades
- Collaboration with Reading and Math Specialists
- Post-Secondary Transition For Students With Disabilities

- Intense Focus On Listening and Speaking
- Use of Consistent Progress Monitoring Tools Across the District
- Increased Supports for Specially Designed Instruction
- Increasing Supports that Help Specialized Classroom Students Access Grade-Level Curriculum Learning's from Previous Work
- The Work for 2020-2021
- Tier One Support

The full report is available in the Board office and upon request.

The Committee expressed concern about State testing and the District going remote resulting in a gap and impacting education.

ACTION: The Committee advised the Administration to have the lobbyist talk about delaying state testing due to a gap that is occurring in education.

An update on testing will occur at the October 2, 2020, Policy Committee meeting.

Credit Recovery Curriculum Adoption

The Administration reported the following information about the Credit Recovery Curriculum.

- Request for Proposal Curriculum Submissions
- The Credit recovery platform providing ready-built courses aligned to Ohio and District standards and guidelines
- The Platform being aligned to the District's content area scope and sequences to ensure a seamless transition between learning environments (i.e., CDA, school buildings etc.)
- The Platform providing opportunities for students to recover missing or lost credits
 - Full courses, partial courses, or can be used for supplemental instruction
 - Aligned with NCAA regulations for Credit Recovery
 - Also provides opportunities for students to take courses not currently offered at their schools
- Tier I instruction serving a diverse array of learners
- Stakeholder involvement

Credit Recovery Curriculum Adoption: Implementation Plan

- Aug. 12th
 - Notification to Principals regarding change in Credit Recovery Platform
 - Building Principals Designate Staff, Platform Administrator
 - Sign up for training slots for school
- Aug. 17th - 20th
 - Go live for Virtual/CDA; training for Virtual
- Sept. 1-4th
 - Training and Launch District-Wide
 - Teachers taught new platform
 - Students enrolled in courses

A copy of the full presentation is available in the Board office and upon request.

Naming of a School

Superintendent Mitchell report that she spoke with Ellen Gilligan about the naming of one of the following venues after former Governor Jack Gilligan.

1. Cincinnati Digital Academy (CDA)
2. Mozart
3. The Light House.

Mrs. Mitchell also noted that there were few schools named after persons of color.

The Committee and Superintendent Mitchell discussed the recommendations. Mrs. Mitchell recommended naming CDA after Mr. Gilligan. The Committee agreed with her recommendation and will recommend that location to the Gilligan family after recommending the location to the Board at a Regular Business Meeting.

Committee member Messer talked about the possibility of families wanting buildings named after their members, provide funding to make the buildings resourceful and as great as possible.

Committee member Moroski and Committee Chair Bowers agreed with Mr. Messer's idea about families exploring fundraising opportunities to make the schools even greater.

Hearing of the Public

No speakers during this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:21 pm.

Student Achievement Committee

Pamela Bowers, Chair
Ryan Messer
Mike Moroski

Staff Liaisons

Laura Mitchell, Superintendent
Tianay Amat, Deputy Superintendent
Shauna Murphy, Assistant Superintendent