

**Teacher Working Group Meeting
West High School Library Classroom
Tuesday, December 17, 2013**

Attendees:

Lynne Fugate, Board of Education Chair
Dr. Jim McIntyre, Superintendent
Tanya Thomas-Coats, Knox County Education Association
Eric Aguilar, Chilhowee Intermediate
Glenn Arnold, L&N STEM Academy
Abigail Buczynski, Cedar Bluff Middle
Kelly Clemmer, Gap Creek Elementary
Mark Duff, Halls High
Lauren Hopson, Halls Elementary
Robby Howard, South-Doyle High
Wandy Lacy, Farragut High
Tenisha Marchbanks, Bearden Middle
Jessica McDonald, Vine Middle
Valeta Norris, Central High
Suzanne Sherman, Hardin Valley Academy
Lindsey Stinnett, West High
Heidi Walsh, Christenberry Elementary
Vanita Williamson, Karns Middle

Non-Attendees:

Jessica Holman, Inskip Elementary

Introduction - Lynne Fugate

- Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at 4:30 PM in West High Library classroom
- Would like to report out to Board of Education at the January 21 mid-month board meeting and make a recommendation on assessments and at the following board meeting on performance evaluations
- This evening want to break out in groups (elementary, middle and high) and discuss testing/assessments (40 minutes)

Testing/Assessments: High Schools - Discovery Ed and Writing Assessments

- Can Discovery Ed be optional? Some see value and some do not.
- Some see little valuable data coming out of testing data that we already know from having students in class everyday
- Perhaps should be kept as *optional* testing and not mandated
- More beneficial to keep students in class than to take out for testing
- From a BOE standpoint: if we aren't going to use the data from the tests, we should not be using the tests
- Been doing Discovery Ed for 3 years; costs ~ \$300K to \$400K per year

Testing/Assessments: Elementary Schools

- SAT10: seen by some as developmentally inappropriate; seems like testing on things that are not in curriculum
 - Can anything be done this year since it is not state mandated, but a choice that KCS made to use?
 - Using it for student literacy data, teacher TVAAS
 - How do they predict SAT10 to get TVAAS? (i.e. like predicting chemistry grade by biology test)
 - Could we see the SAT10 test?
- Maybe have 1 writing assessment at end of year instead of 4 times throughout year
- Discovery Ed: could we find something else to get data?
- CBM: problem; administered 3 times/year; assessing for RTI, but only tests fluency, would like to see an assessment that also tests comprehension
- CRA: “wishy-washy”; need uniform expectation; should not have to be done at certain time
- Writing Assessments: not as authentic as what we do each day in class; will go away with PARCC
- Computational Fluency Tests: doing 4 times/year (from math department)
- Testing every Friday for PLC data (for Smart Goals), which can be stressful for students

Testing/Assessments: Middle Schools

- Need to get back to common assessment that is teacher lead/created and use in PLC’s
- Math department does a great job
- Coaches analyze our data, provided by teachers, but teachers don’t get to study data
- Frustrated when we generate data for district, but don’t get to analyze data of our own students
- Discovery Ed: should be teacher choice
- TCAPs: questions about room assignments; possibly test within grade level
 - Can we find out how much it costs to view individual TCAP test questions?
- EOC Transparency: more functional if we could view test at our own school instead of another school
 - Suggestion: Either all teachers should be able to view test or none at all
 - Lots of corrections were made this week to the math portion
- Perception that EOC tests do not align with skillset being taught; there is a breakdown in communication from supervisors to teachers (i.e. could view multiple choice, but not narrative)
- TCAP Week: for test security, swap subject area teachers (i.e. English facilitate Math)
- Overall big issues with errors on EOC tests
- PARCC: not enough information to field test (random sample); required testing 5th-8th-11th
 - Dr. McIntyre to share when we know how long the PARCC assessment will take

Other

- Evaluations: could address *this evening* that the second evaluation should be a choice of announced or unannounced
- Suggestion to have 1 announced and 1 unannounced visit or a 2-3 week window of when evaluation will take place

Next meeting will be Monday, January 13, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. at West High School Library Classroom.