

MEDFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP
Zoom Remote Meeting
April 16, 2021

PRESENT: Jessica Reilly - Chair
Leo Brehm -Vice Chair
Timothy Knight - Recording Secretary
Meghan Glenn - Financial Secretary
Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke - Member at Large

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey Marsden - Superintendent of Schools
Michael LaFrancesca - Director of Finance and Operations
Andrea Moores - Secretary

The Chair called for a Roll Call to begin the workshop:

- Timothy Knight- yes
- Meghan Glenn -yes
- Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke -yes
- Jessica Reilly- yes

The Workshop began at 10:05 a.m..

Mr. Leo Brehm joined the workshop after Roll Call was taken.

Ms. Jessica Reilly gave an overview of the workshop format and stated that the committee would not be soliciting public comment at this workshop. Ms. Reilly informed the public that questions could be addressed to Dr. Christine Power, Dr. Jeffrey Marsden and Mr. Nathaniel Vaughn via email.

Dr. Jeffrey Marsden explained to the committee that the feedback he had received regarding the Standards Based Reporting (SBR) prompted him to have Dr Christine Power analyze the district's SBR assessment practices and solicit feedback from parents, students and teachers.

Dr. Christine Power, the Director of Instruction and Innovation, presented her analysis of the district's Standards Based Reporting (SBR) Assessment practices. The purpose of the analysis was to obtain an understanding of how SBR is conceptualized and operationalized within Blake Middle School and to understand its impact on all stakeholders within the Medfield Public Schools community.

Dr. Power's presentation included information on the following:

- Purpose, overview and research of the analysis
- Process of Analysis
- Implementation
- Outcomes/Impacts
- Areas of Concern
- Recommendations
 - Assessment focused professional development opportunities grades 6-12
 - Uniform report card
 - Centralize documentation using ASPEN database

- Adapt Grades 7 and 8 reporting models to include elements of traditional grading
- Next steps to be developed with Central Office, Blake Leadership and faculty
- Questions

At the conclusion of Dr. Power's presentation the School Committee shared their thoughts and feedback on the presentation:

Ms. Meghan Glenn asked Dr. Power to clarify if the new grading scenario would include information to help parents have a better understanding of the type of student their child is. Dr. Marsden explained that it is possible to have a letter grade in conjunction with standards based reporting. The goal is to create a hybrid grading system that encompasses traditional grades and the best of standards based reporting to include clear expectations for students, parents and teachers.

Mr. Leo Brehm expressed his appreciation for the work that has been done on this analysis and stated that the research reinforces the importance of having Dr. Power's position in the district.

Ms. Jessica Reilly shared her concerns around the transition for students moving from the middle school to high school. She stated that it would be important to identify the less concrete areas of student learning and ways to support that. Dr. Power explained the importance of common language and experiences for students and teachers in grades 6-12 and how that helps ease the transition from middle school to high school.

Mr. Timothy Knight thanked Dr. Power for her thorough presentation and inquired about specific next steps. Dr. Marsden explained that the group will come together after April vacation to plan out the next steps. Dr. Marsden sees this as an opportunity for a summer research and development project as well.

Ms. Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke thanked Dr. Power for her work and stated that this is an opportunity to address concerns pertaining to SBR while keeping its benefits along with the traditional grading that is preferred by stakeholders.

Ms. Jessica Reilly informed the public that Dr. Power's presentation and report will be available on the School Committee webpage.

Mr. Leo Brehm stressed the importance of identifying ways to communicate the implementation and rollout of new hybrid grading reporting to parents.

A motion was made by Ms. Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke, seconded by Mr. Leo Brehm to adjourn the meeting.

A Roll Call Vote was taken to adjourn the meeting:

- Leo Brehm- yes
- Timothy Knight- yes
- Meghan Glenn -yes
- Anna Mae O'Shea Brooke -yes
- Jessica Reilly- yes

The motion passed unanimously.

The Workshop was adjourned at 11:15 am

Minutes Approved by School Committee: May 13, 2021

EXHIBITS AND DOCUMENTS

- Standards Based Reporting Presentation 4/16/2021
- Standards Based Reporting 4/16/2021

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Moores
Secretary