**School Board Minutes October**

1. Public Comment
   1. Grading scale discussion and reflection on “coffee and conversation” from October 16th – reiterated the March deadline for 10 point scale (Jon).
   2. Grading scale (Jamie Forbes) Mystery to rationale why at 7 pt. scale- 10 point scale better for self-esteem and applications for admissions and scholarships
   3. Frustration with grade scale – priority and visibility for the Board- Need transparency and communication (Steve Lozan)
   4. Timeline and facts- dates – grading issues –wondering what the timeline is? (Jess Lozan)
   5. Grading scale a priority outside – suggests getting an outside party to evaluate (Kat McCloud)
2. Moved Superintendent report to top of agenda to address grading issue
   1. Updated from Coffee and Conversation
   2. Update on work going on at the high school with the grading committee
      1. George and Kim commented on the alignment of same courses with syllabus, weighting of grades, retakes, corrections and late work will be done on November 6th - committee has mostly been working on aligning like subjects and competencies.
      2. 7 or 10 point will be decided in March
      3. Want to calibration first
      4. Board is unsure why we need to calibrate first, why not just do everything at once?
      5. Putting numbers on transcripts as soon as can figure out the complications behind the software , as well as some people grade using “A, B” not numbers.
      6. Nancy Clayborn commented on worrying about the students at the bottom and she believes a 10 point scale would allow them to have an easier time graduating.
      7. Kim commented that would mean they would graduate with a diploma that may only represent a learning of 60% as compared to 70% currently- what do we want the piece of diploma to represent? What about the students that are just trying to “pass” do we want them to have it easier or be pushed to do better?
3. Report from the Middle School- Phil Davis
   1. Have a homeroom block and a success block total of 21 minutes.
   2. Teachers are enjoying community building during that time.
   3. Working on student led parent conferences.
   4. If parent can’t make it the student is making a video tape to share with mom and dad.
   5. PTA is up and running.
   6. Project lead the way – 2 year grant for $10,000 for STEM education.
   7. Using individualized instruction to reach gifted and talented or struggling students.
   8. After school program for Ds and FS.
   9. This summer they had 42 students walk in the door.
   10. Looping in world languages.
   11. NYC and Quebec trips with help from School Board Fund.
   12. VLACs is also up and running – students are taking high school classes.
   13. Parent info night on safety and ALICE training
   14. Board asked about Chrissy’s sabbatical and how the math interventions were going?
4. Curriculum and Program Report – by George and Phil
   1. Middle school teachers attended a conference with George this summer
   2. Departments will have competencies defined by 1/23/2019
   3. Next step after that will be to work on rubric design and development of performance tasks.
   4. Using the mantra “what students know and are able to do!”
5. Consideration of FY19 tuition rates – Non-area tuition for elementary $18,984; middle school $18,200, High school $17,820 for SAU 50 Middle school $17,954 and High School $16,885
6. Committee updates
7. Adjourned