

Polaris at Ebert Collaborative School Committee
Minutes January 20, 2016

1. Call to Order

PRESENT:

Marisa Hudson-Arney - parent
Stephanie Nussbaumer – parent
Jennifer Reynolds - parents
Michelle Higgins – paraprofessional
Catherine Forington - teacher
Gail Axt - teacher
Anne Sterrett - principal

2. PARCC data review

- Principal Sterrett shared the data and her plans to draft the UIP changes that the PARCC data will influence.
- The CSC asked if teachers can get access to specific, drilled-down data to show which standards need attention.

3. DPS Curriculum Options - Flexibility Monetization

- The money that Polaris gets because of our “opt-out” choice from (k-3) literacy curriculum and (k-5) math curriculum must go toward other curriculum purchases
- The money goes into a reserve account which we need to be careful to plan and spend.
- Principal Sterrett is gathering information from teachers about what they would like to use to meet the needs of our kids especially in the area of science and social studies.

4. 2016-17 Budget Draft

- Committee reviewed reports and information from 2015-16 budget because our operating budget stays the same based on pupil count
- Questions were fielded about various categories of the budget
- Carry forward “cushion” is small this year and will hopefully grow in the next two years, but not at the expense of instruction
- Principal Sterrett proposed a new salary budget which impacts para time. One specific change is the increase of a school psychologist from two days a week to three days a week. This would depend on a satisfactory schedule for para’s in classrooms. The money currently dedicated to para’s from the PTO would go to an additional day of school psychologist and less para time for art.
- If this budget proposal goes through, the money needed from the PTO would be less than in years past.

5. Next Meeting - Feb 1

- Finalizing the budget