



Boston Renaissance Charter Public School

Minutes

Academic Excellence Committee Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday March 3, 2021 at 9:00 AM

MISSION

The mission of the Boston Renaissance Charter Public School is to nurture and develop academic, social and emotional competence while building confidence, character and citizenship among its students.

Committee Members Present

A. Buckmire (remote), E. Alphonse (remote), M. Gardner (remote), R. Clarke Jr. (remote)

Committee Members Absent

None

Guests Present

C. Beckhusen (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

M. Gardner called a meeting of the Academic Excellence Committee of Boston Renaissance Charter Public School to order on Wednesday Mar 3, 2021 at 9:00 AM.

C. Approve Minutes

E. Alphonse made a motion to approve the minutes from Academic Sub-Committee on 12-16-20.

A. Buckmire seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Alphonse Aye

M. Gardner Aye

R. Clarke Jr. Aye

A. Buckmire Aye

II. Academic Excellence

A. Academic Excellence

Christine Beckhusen, the Data and Assessment Coordinator presented a presentation to the committee on how teachers of students with disabilities are tracking data. It was explained that Special Education teachers and service providers work with individual students on the specific goals that are in a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP). These goals each have objectives that must be met for a goal to be mastered. This is where progress monitoring occurs

One way ELA & Math Data is collected is collected through Curriculum-based measures (CBM). This data is used to make instructional & service decisions based on individual student performance. This data is collected by the individual student's teachers.

Progress notes for SWD's are done 3x a year. They are done at the same time report cards are given. These progress notes give an explanation as well as document individual student performance on their IEP Goals

A specific platform that Special Educators use to collect data is AIMSWeb. This platform has been used by BRCPS special education teachers for many years. A benchmark assessment is given 3X a year and progress monitoring occurs weekly or bi-weekly in between benchmark assessments. It is currently used to track Math & ELA progress of SWD's. Specifically, it allows teachers to look at comparisons of individual students with other students at their grade level. It also looks at individual growth and predicts EOY growth targets. Teachers are also able to look at growth of individual students from previous years.

Data and Assessment Coordinator explained what is done with the data that is being collected. It was explained that this data allows for teachers to focus instruction on areas of weakness. This data can help teachers create specific IEP goals based on individual student needs. Looking at this data also helps teachers to reflect and analyze their own teaching to determine effective teaching practices.

Other platforms that teachers utilize are Illuminate and i-Ready. Illuminate is utilized by both special education teachers and classroom teachers within the Upper School. Assessments are given in Math, ELA, Science, and Social Studies. Assessments are given before and after specific standards are taught. Teachers then analyze this data to drive their instruction in specific areas that show growth is needed. The i-ready platform is utilized in both lower and upper school. It is used for both ELA and Math. It allows data to be tracked for all students, but also allows us to group SWD's and EL's in specific groups to track data within different groups for analyzing.

Currently there is a comprehensive system that is being developed to show data that is being collected for IEP goals along with the data presented. This will allow for teachers to access all this data in one place.

Tracking Data for EL's is done through ACCESS testing. This is a test that is given to all EL's across the state. Along with the ACCESS Testing, ESL teachers work collaboratively with classroom teachers to determine specific areas of growth that need to be targeted for individual students.

The Academic Committee then discussed what was going to be presented to the board at the next Board Meeting. It was determined that there would be an update on the progress of sub-groups of students that are being tracked. It was also suggested that a brief explanation be given about how attendance is being tracked for remote learners.

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Gardner