

West Islip School District
Education Committee
2017-2018

Minutes

October 12, 2017

7:15 p.m.

District Office ~ Board Conference Room

Meeting began: 7:15 p.m.

Members present: Steve Gellar, Annmarie LaRosa, Kevin O'Connor, Bernadette Burns, Anne Rullan

Others present: Paul Michaluk, Scott Brady

Increase School Counseling Expectations

The committee discussed the proposed Amendments to Commissioner Regulations which strengthen and redefines the role of the School Counselor and School Counseling programs formally known as Guidance programs. In summary, a comprehensive school counseling program should be designed to address the academic, career and personal/social development of all students. School Counselors are trained to provide a combination of preventive and supportive services for all students in the academic, social/emotional, and college/career domains. This is achieved by working collaboratively with administrators, teachers, school social workers, school psychologists, nurses, parents and community members. Through individual, group and classroom activities, school counselors monitor the development of academic and social/emotional skills of each student by developing personalized educational and career plans to ensure current and future success. The proposed amendments include adding:

- Comprehensive school counseling plans should continue to be updated annually and available on the district website.
- Students in K-6 will be added to the existing requirements for annual progress reviews for every student reflecting educational progress and career plans.

K12 Insight

The District is exploring the use of an outside provider to develop valid and reliable surveys that will provide the District with a data analysis of a variety of topics. We are reviewing K12 Insight which offers custom research-based surveys, connecting with the entire community, benchmarking our findings with other schools, and development of an action plan for continuous improvement. We would receive powerful analytics and reporting tools to highlight perception gaps, uncover hidden challenges and spot trends year over year.

Update on G Suite for Educators

The Committee reviewed the ongoing professional development and strides the District has made in moving towards the 1:1 deployment of Chromebooks for our students in grades 6 through 8.

Expansion of the Engineering Technology Department

As the District allocated funds through the budget process to expand our Engineering Technology Department, we are limited by space constraints. Mrs. Burns and Dr. Rullan conducted a site visitation of the High School to determine whether there are any viable spaces that can be utilized. High School Administration is currently working on a site map listing all uses for each space within the High School. As mentioned previously, the District has determined that any space in Westbrook Elementary is not a viable solution.

Meeting adjourned: 7:55 p.m.