



PLYMOUTH-CANTON
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Student Performance and Achievement (SPA) Board Committee Meeting Minutes for September 18, 2024

Board of Education members present: Anupam Chugh Sidhu and Judy Westra

District staff present: Beth Rayl, Chief Academic and Innovation Officer; Anthony Ruela, Executive Director of Middle School Education and PreK-12 Student Support Systems; Stefanie Hayes, Executive Director of Special Education; Jamie Gales, Assistive Technology Consultant; Jan Douglas, K-12 Curriculum Coordinator for English Language Arts (ELA) and Media; and Susan Provenzano, Executive Assistant to the Chief Academic and Innovation Officer

Citizen representative present: Katie Bennett

Student Voice in Action representative present: Hudson Lloyd

Others present: John Johnston, a community member, and Lauren Cummings, a P-CCS teacher

- A. Committee Chair Anupam Chugh Sidhu called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
- B. Approval of Minutes: The draft minutes from the June 3, 2024, meeting were reviewed and approved.
- C. Public Comments: none
- D. Presentations/Discussions
 - A. **Assistive Technology for Students:** Jamie Gales, Assistive Technology Consultant, presented information on assistive technology and how it supports learning in the least restrictive environment for students with an individualized education program (IEP).
 - B. **K-12 Counseling Professional Learning Updates:** Anthony Ruela, Executive Director of Middle School Education and PreK-12 Student Support Systems, shared an update on professional learning completed by our school counselors, including the two-year American School Counselor Association (ASCA) national model training and professional learning on the Michigan Career Development Model.
 - C. **High School ELA Course Materials for Multicultural Literature** - Jan Douglas, K-12 Curriculum Coordinator for English Language Arts (ELA) and Media, shared a recommendation to include *Clap When You Land* by Elizabeth Acevedo as a whole-class novel for the 11th and 12th-grade yearlong Multicultural Literature course. There would be no additional cost to add this novel, as *Clap When You Land* is already currently available in the P-CEP book room. If approved, this

novel will be implemented during the 2024-2025 school year. The request was approved to move to the Board of Education meeting on September 24, 2024, for a first reading.

- D. Suggested Topics for 2024-2025** - The committee discussed potential future SPA topics. A discussion related to cell phone use among students took place. Discussion items included information about changes being discussed at the local, state, and national levels related to laws about cell phone use in schools. The committee also discussed P-CCS cell phone policies and their application in our schools.
- E. SPA Community Committee Members** - The committee discussed postponing applications for additional community committee members until January 2025 to align with the current Board committee member approval cycle.

Committee Chair Anupam Chugh Sidhu called for an adjournment at 6:30 p.m., and the meeting was adjourned at that time.