**Summary of Parent Feedback**

**Citywide Parent Network and AASD Standards Based Progress Reporting Discussion**

**April 13, 2015, 6:30 pm**

**Things That Were Learned at the Meeting:**

* 7-12 grades still get letter grades. “THANK YOU!!! This is a good thing.” “That you are committed to keeping A-F grades in 7-12.” Mentioned by more than 5 people.
* There is a counseling curriculum to assist with employability skills at 6th, 8th, and 10th grades.
* Standards based grading will be more consistent. One parent: “To my dismay, there is a tremendous push for consistency in grading practices.”
* Details about elementary grading process.
* Plans to develop standards based learning and grading for middle and high school.
* Focus is on skills development in addition to fact memorization.
* They (AASD) are still looking at how the employability skills will be incorporated but they will be assessed in some way in the future (Mentioned by about 5 people).
* What the future may look like with grading/sliding scale standards.
* The fact that teachers are not grading at all the same standards and consistency.
* Working towards grading with employability skills.
* 4, 3, 2, 1 could be part of the letter grades.
* College level is expanding to this grading and take more than the GPA into account. Certain districts are flagged to recalculate GPA.
* Work-based learning is available to teach employer related skills.
* Grading standards are not solely based on common core.
* Are they getting rid of letter grades in middle school? They are not, but would like to add standards.
* How is Appleton making the connection to being good employees in whatever field they go into.
* How to help my children understand the 1-4 standards and expand on it.
* Some but not all staff are using standards.
* Standards are clearer and laid out for 7-12 grades.
* 1-4 grades work best when the standards and requirements are laid out for the students.
* This is just the start of a long process.
* No one knows how things will be for sure going forward.
* Students CAN earn a 4 in grade school.
* The scale won’t be the same for 1-6 as 7-12.

**Questions That People Still Had:**

* How can teachers voice their concerns without the fear of losing their jobs?
* What is the motivating factor to do more and be better for the kids?
* Where will teachers find the time to do all of this without sacrificing my student’s learning time?
* How can my elementary student better understand how to achieve a 4 rating?
* How can the district ensure the standards are administered the same between teachers?
* Will the infinite campus have specific details (rubrics, individual standards, etc.)?
* Will students have access to same rubrics and individual standards?
* Will rubrics be used across grade levels across the district?
* When will Jefferson join the trips to the Fox Valley Trip in the 6th grade?
* What will be the impact of the abandonment of common core on this process?
* How quickly will this be rolled out?
* How will teachers communicate this more effectively to our children?
* With as much understanding as parents of our generation have with A-F grading system, why is there a number grading system that in and of itself is flawed?
* How/what is the plan for integrating standards-based learning with building employability skills and eventually long-term career success?
* How long until standards-based grading will be fully integrated into the middle schools/high schools?
* Are the sixth grade students going to be prepared for getting letter grades at middle school?
* Communicating of grading standards between parents and teachers.
* Have teachers really bought into the new grading system?

**Additional Questions from Post-It Notes:**

* Are employers providing input on employability skill discussion?
* How will employability skill assessments affect high school and middle school GPA? (Is it outside of the GPA?)…”not interested in employability being part of GPA driving college acceptance.”
* How will AASD ensure connection across middle school and high school on standards? And ensure that these standards in middle school prepare for high school?
* Employability skills “Night at the Tech”—open to other families in the sectionals, open house on Saturday.
* If a kids show he/she knows the answer and how to get it, what “score” do they get if they never turn anything more in?

**Facts That Were Learned That Could be Shared with Parent Groups:**

* We will still get letter grades, but they’ll be figured differently.
* You (AASD) are listening and working on consistent practices.
* We are not getting rid of letter grades in 7-12. (Mentioned by at least 5 people.)
* The Common Core is not abandoned yet.
* There are lots of administrators, teachers, and parents that care!
* Work-based learning skills and employment skills for high school students.

Submitted by Amber Cittadino, Secretary.