

# Banks School District 13

Achievement Compact Advisory Committee

Minutes for Meeting of December 18, 2012

Submitted by Bob Huston, Superintendent/Committee Chair on December 19, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Bob Huston, committee chair, at 3:30 PM.

Committee Members Present: Kevin Cliff  
Sue Harsin  
Wendy Holland  
Deb Mott  
Mark Everett  
Shelley Mitchell  
Shawnda Sewell  
Bob Huston

Committee Members Absent: Vicky VanDomelen - excused

Others Present: None

Bob Huston reviewed the agenda items. He referenced the most recent letter from Rudy Crew, Oregon's Chief Education Officer, and updated the committee in regard to the a plan for revised timelines as follows:

- January 14, 2013: Board of Directors will be presented with the general compact design.
- February 11, 2013: Board of Directors updated with progress toward a more details in the compact.
- March 11: Board of Directors receive a draft compact design for a first reading.
- April 8: Board of Directors take action on our compact.
- Amy 15: Superintendent submits compact to the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB) for review/approval.

Shawnda Sewell reviewed the 6<sup>th</sup> grade on track data (attendance rates) as well as for 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Currently, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade data shows we are at 96% and the state benchmark is 90%. She explained the pathways for maintaining/improving high attendance rates K-6. Shawnda cited a study out of Spokane, WA involving 7,000 students. The study revealed elementary students with 4 unexcused absences in one year are at double the risk of dropping out of HS. Shawnda also shared their work relative to establishing percentage increases for third grade reading and math. Her pathway for improvements in these areas including the curriculum mapping projects and analysis of strand data along side trend data to come up with their goal for the next meeting. Second grade teachers in her

building are serving as a sub-committee to the ACAC for reviewing this data and advising. Shawnda also shared their pathway for addressing the need for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders to have the proper level of proficiency to be able to navigate the new state assessments, Smarter Balance, which assumes students being able to manipulate data on touch screens and via the computer keyboard/mouse. The Smarter Balance assessments will replace the current OAKS assessments commencing with the 2014-15 school year. Strategies include some use of the new tablets, more student time in the computer lab monitored by our current Physical Activity Time assistants. The goal is to have students to become more comfortable with keyboarding and on-screen manipulations required for state testing.

Shelly Mitchell shared their plans for addressing writing in the content areas. Her pathway for improvement included building wide training in analyzing student-writing samples to assure all students in all disciplines are given consistent feedback on writing, regardless of the content area. She is working with Doug Allen, who has been trained in the 6 traits writing process and writing evaluations. Even though the compact does not assess writing in grades 7 and 8, it is assessed for students in 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

Mark shared his progress toward addressing the many compact benchmarks for the high school.

- Graduation rate for the 4 year cohort is 75.9%
- Graduation rate for the 5 year cohort is 82.3%
- 5 year completion rate of earning a diploma within 5 years of entering HS is 91%
- Post secondary enrollment is 71%
- 9<sup>th</sup> grade on track for graduation is 77%
- Percentage of students earning 9 or more college credits while enrolled in HS or earlier is 26%

Mark will be working with others to establish percentage goal increases for these benchmarks. Some pathways for success that Mark and others shared included:

Address dual certification issues, review policies for honors diploma, award 8<sup>th</sup> graders taking HS classes with HS credit, review the concept of weighted grades for AP classes, help students and parents see the value of having students take rigorous classes and not play the “grade game.” Mark said colleges want to see challenging course on transcripts not simply a high GPA. Discussion was had regarding the need for other AP courses for students for their ease of access to college credits in combination with the PCC courses currently offered and taken by students. Kevin Cliff mentioned that students are beginning to understand the value of honors and AP course work.

Bob asked what is needed to assure parents that all staff have the requisite skills and information needed for delivering consistent high quality learning experiences for all students. The committee discussed the need for a quality staff development model, for all staff, which is currently lacking in our District. The committee discussed a model that would assure consistent time for focused staff collaboration for improving instructional practices and student learning. The model that may best address this need might be that of

weekly late start days or early release days, one day per week, for 1.25 to 1.5 hours, on one day per week. Bob is gathering some comparability data from similar sized districts and neighboring districts relative to their staff development programs. He will also be reviewing recommendations for staff development via Oregon's Quality Education model and OEIB for meeting the 40-40-20 vision.

Bob shared what he had learned regarding the issue of targeting the subgroup of economically disadvantaged students. This subgroup consists of students on free or reduced lunch and is obviously protected by confidentiality laws. This data is only available on a need to know basis. The principals will have access to the data to help them with determining goals and learning strategies for this subgroup. The law allows access to this data for analyzing state assessment data for improving student learning.

Bob thanked the committee for their work and the pathways they are recommending to guide our progress toward meeting our compact goals.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30.

**The next meeting has been scheduled for January 24, 2013, at 3:30 PM in the District Office conference room.**