

Minutes of Discipline Policy Review Committee Meeting Of April 18, 2013

The Board of Education Harlem Consolidated School District

A Discipline Policy Review Committee meeting of the Board of Education of Harlem Consolidated School District was held Thursday, April 18, 2013, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Harlem Administration Center, 8605 North Second Street, Machesney Park, IL 61115.

1. Roll Call

Patti Lawrence, Margo Sিকেle, Leah Krippner, Larry Barger, Jeremy Bois
Larry Smith, Rodney Scott, Michael Plourde, Mickie Erb, Becky Girard, Jason
Blume, Allsion Louis, Brock Moreland – (quorum)

2. Call to Order by Patti Lawrence at 6:00 p.m.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve Agenda with no changes

1st Jason Blume 2nd Becky Girard

All aye

Motion carried

4. Comments from the Community

none

5. Approve to Minutes of January 31, 2013

1st Jason Blume 2nd Jeremy Bois

All ayes

Motion carried.

6. Review 2012-2013 District Third Quarter Discipline Data

Becky Girard – Elementary - Noted a decrease from last quarter to this quarter in referrals at Level 2 as well as from last year;

Top locations – decrease in all areas except for the bus. In second quarter the bus referrals were also up. We are reviewing this to attempt to decrease the bus referrals. Classroom referrals are down and the most referrals given were due to classroom behavior. We continue to focus on this area.

Jason Blume - gave the subgroup report noting that we are focusing on the economically disadvantaged subgroup with it showing an increase as well as multi-racial and Hispanic subgroups which are small groups. We need to focus on these subgroups. Mrs. Lawrence asked if it is because these groups have increased in number from last year.

Mr. Blume noted that in his building it has decreased but he feels that could be a factor.

PBIS – Because of the decrease in referrals with 99% at zero to one referral. We need to focus on the 2 or more referrals students but 99% at zero to one is a very good reflection over 3300 students.

Becky noted that initiatives include the PBIS programs with different levels and incentives such as check in check out. These are successful and we continue to promote these. We have also started with bus driver training and that is being implemented with positive behavior rewards, B-Bucks, etc.

Behavior charts have been modified to insure that the bus behaviors are included with students becoming more involved with student leadership teams.

Jason noted that morning meetings are occurring in many of the building to address the relationships and social and emotional issues. This seems to be having a positive impact as well as assemblies, videos addressing playground behavior and how the playground is set.

Mike Plourde – Harlem Middle School shows last years' data to this year data which includes minor referrals with last year not including these. We are now counting more things in our charts. 199 students received referrals in third quarter. Our top offense is disrespect, disruptive behavior. Bullying and harassment are also large issues. The top location is the classroom as in the past. We had a similar increase as elementaries with the economically disadvantaged referrals increasing while this group has slightly decreased in population. We are looking at this district-wide.

PBIS pyramid shows the majority of students receiving zero to one referral with one arrest at the end of the third quarter. Initiatives including PBIS programs, assemblies on anti-bullying, morning announcements about one of the habits, continue to conduct Tier 1 and Tier 2 meetings and recommendations; continue CICO for several students, we are continuing to focus on bus behavior and we have seen improvement on targeted areas with kids. Some of things we will continue to work on is harassment and bullying. Tardies is an issue and continues to be a problem with disruptive behavior and insubordination.

Kids not serving detention is becoming a larger problem with the weather getting warmer.

Leah Krippner asked if the model is causing more issues at the middle school level to which Mr. Plourde noted it is a different structure along with kids reaching puberty and already mastering behaviors at the 6th grade level and acting out at the middle school level.

Brock Moreland noted elementary students are mainly Level 1, but as they get older the incidents are reported more often and the same age grouping of students at the middle school seems to provide for more referrals.

With groups being smaller at the elementary level referrals are less. Mr. Plourde stated that 7th and 8th grade referrals are very similar.

Larry Smith noted that 9th grade data was similar to last year in numbers. This year

there were more days in 3rd quarter than last year and it includes the month of March which is traditionally the highest referral month we are glad to see it did not increase. Top referral is disruptive behavior, and we continue to look at PE no dress due to the new policy. The areas of focus are harassment and bullying and we are intervening in more of these instances, failure to serve detention and disruption.

The subgroup report shows the economically disadvantage increase with 245 last year to over to 280 students in this group. What is a positive is that the minority subgroups have decreased in referrals as compared to many past years.

PBIS pyramid reflects that it is at 85% with zero or one referrals. Top location continues to be the classroom. Juvenile authorities spiked this year in that the students were referred for numerous reasons, theft, fighting, harassment, drugs, Facebook issues to the extent of violating the law.

Perfect attendance continues to be over 70% every week for the third quarter and March is continuing in this path. In February we were at 40% for the entire month.

Mrs. Lawrence asked if the student count fluctuation was because of adds and drops to which Mr. Smith responded yes.

Facebook is following through and shutting down mean postings. Students are not using Facebook anymore because there are too many parents on Facebook. Students are now moving to different social media.

Initiatives continuing with mini lessons, lessons on bullying. Mr. Boyce commented that this is the best year is the best that he has seen with discipline.

Mr. Boyce noted that 300 students generated no referral with 614 referrals being generated and is a significant decrease over last year. Total locations show a significant increase in detentions. The classroom location is down significantly. PE no dress is now a referral so this shows an increase. School grounds include bus stops, smoking, leaving campus including the bike path or parking lot.

Top offenses remain failure to complete detentions but has decreased by half as we are offering lunch time detentions. The inappropriate language was a top offense last quarter and is increased by a slight amount. Defiance has decreased. Failure to complete discipline includes a high number of cell phones which does happen less frequently.

Subgroup report is consistent with last quarter. There is a decrease in the African American subgroup and an increase in the Economically Disadvantaged Subgroup. Most of the subgroups are a continuance of focus.

Arrests include fewer than last quarter at 9 with this quarter at 5.

PBIS pyramid with over 90% at zero to one with the middle tier looking good to (two to five range) which we believe is as a result of the detentions at lunch. Our initiatives through PBIS with a focus of bullying and harassment. We have made the reporting process simplified. We have also focused on substance abuse as per the students' input. An anti-bullying club has been created by a teacher and students working with students that feel victimized. This creates another avenue for kids that are feeling pressure with bullying. It provides a safe haven for students and it is really a great program.

Mr. Bois noted that it seems to have been a very positive year. Mrs. Krippner noted that she also has felt that is a calmer environment.

The regional alternative population is growing and that may be a factor for the improved environment also.

Mrs. Sicklele noted that bus referrals comparison from last quarter to this quarter . Mr. Blume noted that he has had 6 bus referrals. Some of these are level 1. They can be suspended for hitting on the bus. Bus referral comparisons for Quarter 1, 2 and 3 were presented but need updating.

Target Data – 3 at the high school, one for tobacco and 2 personal conduct None at the 9th grade. All first offenses, two violations were with behavior contracts prior to the session. The middle school has had none.

7. Proposed Conduct Code Matrix Changes for 2013-2014

Due to using SWIS and SKYWARD changes it changed how we identified certain student behavior. As a result we are proposing changes to the Elementary matrix grades 2-4 and grades 5 & 6. We updated in two areas on both matrix Abusive Language/Inappropriate Language – **we added in the first column on both matrixes “Profanity/Gestures to students or staff “ to both.** **The second addition is on the last column of both matrixes – Use and possession of weapons – we are adding “including look-alikes”**

These changes should be recommendations on the May 6, 2013 board agenda for approval.

Mr. Blume noted that the forms for referral and possibly making some changes to these forms.

Mr. Blume mentioned the officer walk through initiative that has been started and it has been positive. The students are receptive and there have been no complaints from parents. Mr. Scott also noted that the walk throughs have been positive from the officers' perspective also.

Mrs. Lawrence asked if we need to align everything throughout the grade level and it is somewhat still subjective in ways. Mr. Blume noted that it is difficult to differentiate and flexibility is needed but so is consistency within buildings.

Flexibility gives us a case by case advantage but we do need to be consistent across the district with expectations at the elementary level so they know them at the secondary level. Mrs. Lawrence asked that principals think about how we can align even more so that there is consistency among buildings.

8. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, June 20 2013, at 6:00 p.m. (4th quarter)

Motion to Adjourn

1st Erb 2nd Bois

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

9. Adjournment