

# **Executive Summary**

## **Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting**

### **June 9, 2015**

## **Update: New Grading and Assessment Practices**

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### **Board Goals**

**Vision** I C - remain committed to providing equitable and outstanding opportunities for every student on every campus; **Teaching & Learning** II A – cultivate a consistent, strong, district-wide balanced curriculum based on ongoing needs assessments that supports all students; and **Climate** III D – instill in students a love of life-long learning; **Growth and Change** VI A, B, and D – review and adjust policy and procedures, create and continuously modify strategies, and work continuously with our community.

### **Purpose of Report**

For the past two years, the secondary Academic Leadership Team (ALT) and the Secondary Curriculum, Instruction, and Staff Development Department have been examining our grading practices in an effort to make sure our practices support our beliefs about learning, assessment, and grading. The result of that work has been the implementation and phase in of new grading guidelines and procedures beginning with the 2014-2015 school year.

During this year, our district staff has worked to implement these new procedures with great care and an emphasis on student success. We have reflected on and refined our work by collaboratively addressing the challenges and celebrating the successes that are part of our professional practice. Feedback has been gathered from teachers, principals, parents, students and district administrators. The purpose of this report is to provide an update and the feedback that has been gathered and to outline next steps that we believe will best support our teachers' and students' efforts.

Note: Video clips of innovative teaching practices and teacher and student comments will be included in the presentation but cannot be attached here due to the size of the files.

### **Objectives**

- To review the work of examining our grading practices by the ALT, principals, students and teachers
- To reflect on our beliefs about learning, assessment, and grading and how we align our practices with those beliefs
- To review the implementation steps and adjustments made second semester based on feedback
- To share authentic evidence gathered from teachers, students and parents regarding the challenges and successes experienced as a result of our new practices
- To outline next steps in the implementation process

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##### **Operational Impact**

None

##### **Results**

This report summarizes our efforts to reflect on and improve our professional practices around our new assessment guidelines. Feedback has been gathered from students, parents, teachers, and administrators. We believe by continuing to reflect on our practices, gather feedback, and refine implementation that we will be able to provide greater instructional support for our teachers and result in increased success for our students.