

## **Advisory Council for Teaching and Learning (ACTL)**

Minutes

Virtual via Zoom

September 11, 2024

### **Present:**

#### **7:00 pm, Welcome, approve minutes from May meeting (Michael Cieslak, Ed.D)**

The May minutes were approved with no questions or objections.

#### **7:05, Community Builder (Michael Cieslak, Ed.D)**

Michael Cieslak led the group in a community-building small group exercise.

#### **7:20, Comments from School Board Liaison (Miranda Turner)**

Miranda Turner introduced herself, thanked ACTL volunteers, and noted the important work of helping APS understand how families and students experience their instruction. The new strategic plan process is ongoing. There has been a focus on measurable outcomes. All school board priorities will relate to the strategic plan and expenditures must be aligned with the strategic plan.

#### **7:25, ACTL Intro with Q&A (Michael Cieslak, Ed.D.)**

Michael Cieslak provided an overview of ACTL including the organizational chart, its mission, and the expectations for ACTL reps.

#### **7:35, Introduction of APS Office of Academics Leadership (Dr. Gerald Mann)**

Gerald Mann introduced the Office of Academics Leadership office and updated the group on the priorities for this year. Office liaisons can help subcommittees with data needs.

#### **7:40, Topics for the Year - APS Leadership/MC (Dr. Gerald Mann)**

Topics for this year include implementing the Virginia Literacy Act, Implementation of new Standards of Learning (SOL) for literacy / English language arts , Access to higher level classes and rigor for English Language Learners (ELs) & Students with Disabilities (SWD), Progress and outcomes for English Language Learners (ELs) & Students with Disabilities (SWD), Implementation of Standards of Learning (SOL) for math, Student Personal Electronic Devices, Artificial Intelligence, use of Canvas, and Policy J-30 Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices

#### **7:45, How ACTL Can Engage Around Critical Topics (Ginnie Gordon)**

Ginnie Gordon presented a tool to help ACTL reps engage their school communities around critical topics. The list of guiding questions can help reps engage with their school communities and best represent all the voices of our school communities.

**7:55, Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices (Steven Marku)**

Steven Marku, Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs, presented on the new personal device policy being piloted at 4 schools. Public comment closes Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>

**8:15, Engagement Your School (Michael Cieslak, Ed.D.)**

Michael Cieslak facilitated small group brainstorming around how to engage school communities.

**8:30, What are ACTL Subcommittees? - Jenny Roahen Rizzo (10 min)**

Jenny Roahen Rizzo presented on the role of ACTL subcommittees. All subcommittees could use more members. Three are in danger of falling below the minimum required threshold – Educational Technology, English Language Learners, Science, and World Languages

**8:40, ACTL Canvas Public Course - Michael Cieslak, Ed.D. (10 min)**

Michael Cieslak presented on the new ACTL Canvas course which is public.

**9:00, Adjournment**