Advisory Committee on Teaching and Learning (ACTL)

Minutes

Via Zoom

Wednesday, January 4, 2023

Present: Jenny Roahen Rizzo, Heidi Gibson, Amy Jackson, Sarah Putnam, Cheryl McCullough, Paula Cordero, Dana Downey, Sheila Leonard, Gretchen Hickey, Krista Ratwani, Katie Cochran, Wendy Pizer, Miles Mason, Janet Sater, Rachel Berkey, Chris Woolfe, Michael Cieslak, Sarah Evans, Eileen Morrell, Mark Blacknell, Maggie Slye, Erik Johnson, Jamie McHenry, Alice Burke, Rosie O'Neil

7:00 pm, Approve minutes from Dec meeting; Introduce Heidi Gibson as new vice chair; Note that the meeting is being recorded (Jenny Roahen Rizzo)

7:05, Presentation on Educational Technology (Dr. Amy Jackson)

Key Takeaways:

- The Office of Educational Technology was launched last school year to "*make content accessible for all students and to create opportunities for students that are developmentally appropriate, culturally relevant, and real-world applicable.*"

- The goal of Educational Technology is to enhance the learning experience, not to replace face-to-face instruction. The Office of EdTech supports teachers with using *"the right tool at the right time for the right purpose."*

- Technology not only supports students in learning the "standards" (ie, the content and skills) but is also important in building digital citizenship, which includes understanding responsibilities, privacy concerns, and online information literacy.

  o Each school has an Instructional Technology Coordinator (ITC). ITCs are moving away from being in charge of maintaining devices.* ITCs are all former teachers and their new role is about ensuring teachers and students are empowered to utilize resources in ways that support effective teaching and learning.

  o Each of the APS Content Offices has an ITC EdTech Liaison who works with them to look at the digital technology being used in their content. With VDOE creating the Digital Integration Standards as well as the Computer Science Standards, we have a very good blueprint on how to incorporate digital technology into all of the curriculum. This is done in conjunction with the content SOL because we always want to make sure we are using the right tool at the right time. (Digital Learning Integration site for VDOE)

- APS has a clear process for the vetting and approval of digital resources (software, apps, etc.) to ensure privacy, consistency, and necessity of the resource.

- Digital tools sometimes collect data on student performance; teachers are being taught to analyze that data early on to identify problem areas and develop interventions.

- *The <u>Office of Educational Technology</u> focuses on how to choose when to use technology, and how to use it effectively. The <u>Office of Information Services</u> provides support and troubleshooting for devices and is also in charge of device security.)

7:30, Q&A with Dr. Jackson

7:45, Discussion among reps

Questions considered: What are the key takeaways from Dr. Jackson's presentation, and what questions should we be engaging our communities with on educational technology

7:55, Introduction to the subcommittee presentation process (Jenny Roahen Rizzo)

8:00, Presentation from World Languages Advisory Committee and discussion (Paula Cordero and Rachel Berkey)

Recommendation 1: New Curriculum Framework for Latin, Arabic, Chinese, and Japanese Languages

Recommendation 2: Funding for new Spanish Resource Adoption in 2023

8:20, Presentation from Gifted Services Advisory Committee and discussion (Carlisle Levine and Greg Eastman)

Recommendation 1: Unfreeze funding for an already approved second full-time Teacher Specialist in the Gifted Services Office

Recommendation 2: Find funding within the APS budget for a Young Scholars Teacher Specialist in the Gifted Services Office who focuses on talent development, or maintain Title II funding for this position

8:45, Meeting wrap up (Jenny Roahen Rizzo)