

Instructional Practices: Grading and Assessment

4-12-2022

3:00-4:00

***\*come early if you missed the last meeting and want to catch up: 2:45***

Agenda:

- 1) Review survey responses (a general “peek” to view what we gathered so far)
- 2) Circle back to staff survey notes from Yolanda’s group
- 3) Organize more detailed review of student and guardian survey responses
- 4) Set next meeting date to identify highlighted topics and draft purpose statement

**Meeting Minutes:**

Present members: Yolanda, Michelle, Beth, Jenn, Amanda, Sue, Stacey, Laurie, and Justin

Note taker: Justin Ballou

1. Introduction:
  - a. Catching members up on past activities (surveys and data analysis)
  - b. Focus: End of June→ Purpose statement draft created and ready for feedback
    - i. Why Grading is Important and what do we believe about it.
2. Staff Survey Report out
  - a. Middle school and High School–Data Pool
  - b. Focus on trends and themes
    - i. Comparative analysis- based on demographics within the surveys
  - c. Most Common Themes
    - i. Grades are both communication and feedback.
    - ii. Grades are a way to assess content skills or knowledge
    - iii. Grades are a way to assess competency
    - iv. Grades are a way to assess student learning
    - v. Knowledge and/or skills
  - d. Further Investigations
    - i. Grading in relation to compliance
    - ii. Do practices match the perceptions of the polled body
    - iii. What is the common language being used?
      1. Within schools
      2. Within community
      3. Between cohorts/participants
    - iv. Honors and Excel had a large variance in responses
  - e. Do we need to resurvey staff?
    - i. Clarify definitions
    - ii. Dig deeper
    - iii. More concrete data/specific data
3. Parent/Community Survey Data
  - a. 105 total responses

- b. Focus on Last Response
    - i. Small Group read/interpret
    - ii. Correlate Information from responses
      - 1. Dig into themes
    - iii. Common Themes
      - 1. Samples
        - a. Conflating grading and assessment
          - i. Quantitative vs. Qualitative
        - b. Separation of knowledge, skills, and actions/behaviors
          - i. Knowledge a primary driver/theme
        - c. Grades should be a communication point. But, what?
          - i. Follow rules?
          - ii. Knowledge retention
          - iii. Skills for the future
        - d. Grades and acquisition should be individualized
          - i. Autonomy, Mastery, Purpose
        - e. Competition between students in grades vs. measuring students where they are.
          - i. Where does motivation come into play?
4. Homework- Identify some things that stuck out to us.
  - a. Student responses
  - b. 3-5 key words
    - i. Big Picture Themes
    - ii. Few Quotables
    - iii. Best Practices Reach
      - 1. Look for some comments about grading and student learning.
      - 2. Communicates something about marking and communicating vs. grading.

Next meeting:

- 1. Meeting for May: (May 17th, 2022)
- 2. Meeting for June: