

CARDINAL COMMUNITY ACADEMY

*Accountability Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2015*

Present:

April Dowdy, Amber Epple, Tara Schutter, Ellen Swieter, Kari Cain, Tammy Kester, and Jody Auer

- I. Minutes approval
- II. Assessment and Results – Jody presented on how the Middle School is using Assessment to Improve Instruction.

Jody shared a couple of different activities she has been using with middle school students. First of all the teachers in the middle school looked at their test results to address the lowest skill level based on percentage. For example, in Reading, it was Informational Text – Craft & Structure, and Vocabulary Acquisition. They looked at the average of class scores. Then using tools within Acuity, activities were constructed to help students in these areas. They are very interactive activities with the computer that the students have been doing in groups. The middle school's goal is to make the assessment fun AND challenging. The assessments use tutorials and puzzles. They have been practicing daily for two months. There has been a long time negative culture around assessment, and they are trying to break this attitude.

PARCC – The school results will be discussed at the January meeting. Although the scores are low as expected, April was pleasantly surprised by our individual school results. This year's current 4th grade class (last year 3rd) did well in Language Arts and had a 53% in Math. Also, this year's current 5th grade class did well. There were only a couple of students who were “did not meet”. Acuity – The second test showed great growth across all grade levels. In the middle school, there was only one student who received an “exceeds”. Acuity Three is coming up next.

- III. Waiver Request

Ellen and April attended the district board meeting in December. There was some discussion, but it was very minimal. There was a motion made, but it did not get a second, and therefore failed. The district does not like to make negative motions, and since the board did not support it as a whole, it basically just “died”. April and Ellen were wondering about parliamentary procedure rules, but apparently the district has acted in this manner for some time. The money that had been set aside in the budget for a new assessment can now be used for training and for the time being, CCA will make the best of it and train our teachers, especially with some of the components that are in Acuity that are teachers never knew were there

- IV. Mid-year parent satisfaction survey results

There was a pretty small response to the survey. The upside is that perhaps parents are overall satisfied and didn't feel a need to make comments. The music program was mentioned by a number of parents as well as math, especially 7th grade math. Other general comments at the primary and secondary level were regarding teacher's communication styles, the amount of homework, entering grades in a timely manner, some limited behavior issues.

V. After school care program update:

The committee would like to see more structured activities in the after school program and will look at the overall program again in May. Ellen said she would report to the board that Accountability would like to continue the program until the end of the school year and then assess whether this is a cost-effective program for the school and/or if the school should support the program as a budget item as it supports our parents.

VI. Good of the order – None

VII. Adjourned at 5:25 p.m.