

The minutes presented within this document provide a summary of the discussion that took place at the Board of Education meeting. For the complete discussion of the agenda items, please view the video of the Board meeting on our website at www.southingtonschools.org. These minutes are considered a draft until approved at the following regular Board of Education meeting.

SOUTHINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT

REGULAR MEETING

MAY 12, 2016 (Revised 05/26/16)

The regular meeting of the Southington Board of Education was held on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Center Public Assembly Room, 200 North Main Street, Southington, Connecticut with Executive Session scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Brian Goralski, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Board members present: Mr. Robert Brown, Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mrs. Juanita Champagne, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mrs. Terry Lombardi (*left meeting 6:56-6:59 p.m.*), Mr. Zaya Oshana, Mrs. Patricia Queen.

Administration present: Mr. Timothy Connellan, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Steven Madancy, Assistant Superintendent; and Mrs. Sherri DiNello, Director of Business and Finance.

MOTION: by Mr. Derynoski, seconded by Mrs. Carmody:

"Move to go into Executive Session, excluding the public and the press, for the purpose of discussing Paraprofessional Negotiations, Personnel, Unaffiliated Employees, and Safety and Security, and upon conclusion reconvene to public session."

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PARAPROFESSIONAL NEGOTIATIONS, PERSONNEL, UNAFFILIATED EMPLOYEES, AND SAFETY AND SECURITY

Mr. Goralski declared Executive Session ended at 7:00 p.m.

3. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

At 7:09 p.m., in Celebration of Excellence, the Board of Education recognized the 2015-2016 Profiles in Professionalism award honorees who were presented with a plaque by Mr. Goralski, an engraved apple from Mrs. Carmody and a box of Fascia chocolates from Mrs. Clark. The 2015-2016 Profiles in Professionalism honorees are:

Brian Durbin, Social Studies Teacher- Southington High School

Amy Kosienski, Math Teacher, ALTA
Bethany Rosin, Curriculum Specialist, DePaolo Middle School
Josie Rogala, Teacher Leader/DePaolo and Kennedy Middle School
Marianne Sabato, School Secretary, Derynoski Elementary School
Nancy Beaulieu, ELL Tutor, Flanders Elementary School
Brenda Carrier, School Secretary, Hatton Elementary School
Krista Stiebel, Social Worker, Kelley and DePaolo
Regina Albee, Grade 1 Teacher, Plantsville Elementary School
Linda Iverson, School Secretary, South End Elementary School
John DelSanto, Head Custodian, Strong Elementary School
Melissa Kennedy, Paraprofessional, Thalberg Elementary School
Catherine Sheldrick, Operations Secretary, Central Office
Victor Baldwin, Painter Tech II, Maintenance Department

4. RECONVENE MEETING ~ REGULAR SESSION

The regular session was reconvened at 7:53 p.m. by Mr. Goralski, Chairperson.
Board members present: Mr. Robert Brown, Mrs. Terri Carmody, Mrs. Juanita Champagne, Mrs. Colleen Clark, Mr. David Derynoski, Mrs. Terry Lombardi, Mr. Zaya Oshana and Mrs. Patricia Queen.

Administration present: Mr. Timothy Connellan, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Stephen Madancy, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Sherri DiNello, Director of Business and Finance; and Mr. Peter Romano, Director of Operations.

Student Representatives present: Mr. James Brino, Mr. Christopher Iverson, and Miss Samantha Martins.

5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The student representatives led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Goralski called for a moment of silence in memory of Semiramis Armandroff who was employed for 22 years as a Library Media Paraprofessional at South End School from 1971 until her retirement in 1993.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ~ April 28, 2016

MOTION: by Mr. Oshana, seconded by Mr. Derynoski:

“Move to approve the regular Board of Education minutes of April 28, 2016, as submitted.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Communications from Audience

Mr. Art Cyr, 103 Berlin Avenue, spoke about the free money available to the schools through programs offered by Stop & Shop, Price Chopper and Shop Rite and asked that PTOs encourage parents to sign up when they go shopping. He stated that DePaolo Middle School has received approximately \$6,000 in this school year alone.

b. Communication from Board Members

The Board members reported on the following:

- The Southington Community Theater performances of “1776” are on June 23, 24, and 25.
- Southington will be nominated to serve on the Board of Directors of CREC. Mrs. Lombardi will serve on the CREC Nominating Committee and the CREC Governance and Bylaws Committee.
- Spring Lake Village representatives would like to have elementary students sing during the Christmas holidays at their recreation facility. It was recommended that they call the Superintendent’s office.
- Last week was Teachers Appreciation Week with Board members, Mr. Connellan and Mr. Madancy visiting the schools.
- The Greater Hartford Academy of Performing Arts presented West Side Story over the weekend with Southington High School students performing. Kelley Elementary students also were in attendance to support one of the leads who worked with the Kelley students in their drama production of “Annie Junior.”
- The elementary and middle schools are currently celebrating “Young Authors” at the schools. Mr. Goralski asked administration to extend the Board’s congratulations to those students.

c. Communication from Administration

Administration reported on the following:

1. School Calendar: Mr. Connellan announced that the elementary parent conferences on the 2016-2017 Adopted School Calendar were changed from November 21 and 22 to December 7 and 8.
2. Military Luncheon: The Military Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, May 24, 2016, at noon in the Municipal Center Public Assembly Room with six students who are enlisting to be honored. The first Board meeting in June there will be a presentation by the Veterans Committee.
3. End of year events as of May 12, 2016:
 - SHS Art Show, Monday, May 16 at 6:00 p.m.
 - World Language Honor Society Induction, Wednesday, May 18 at 5:00 p.m. in the SHS Atrium.
 - SHS Scholarship Night, Thursday, May 19 at 7:00 p.m.
 - Armed Forces Luncheon, Friday, May 20, 2016.
 - Top 10 Scholar Luncheon, Wednesday, May 25 at noon in the SHS Corner Café.
 - Visiting Artist Unveiling, Wednesday, May 25 on the Rails to Trails.
 - Project Lead the Way Senior Night, Wednesday, May 25 at 6:00 p.m. at SHS.

4. Legal Update: CABE provided a legal update on the legislative wrap up and the bills passed that will be implemented.

d. Communications from Student Representatives

Miss Martins reported on the following:

- Junior Prom was held on Saturday, May 7.
- AP Exams are currently being held. The AP Expo is coming up.
- The Unified Sports Track Meeting was held on Wednesday, May 11.
- The SHS Art Club presentation is Monday, May 16 at 6:00 p.m.
- The Language Honor Society Induction is Wednesday, May 18 at 5:00 p.m.
- Freshmen Orientation is May 23, 2016.

Mr. Iverson reported on the following:

- SHS and Thalberg Elementary School have started a Readers Book Club collaborative. On Thursday, May 19, Thalberg students will be visiting the high school for reading sessions throughout the school.
- The Training for Tomorrow lunch is Tuesday, May 17 which is co-sponsored by the Southington Chamber of Commerce
- Mr. Greg Ferry, Athletic Director, will be giving a presentation at the Military Luncheon as a former commissioned officer in the United States Coast Guard.
- This year, Mr. Iverson's favorite class at Southington High School is the Business Co-op Class taught by Miss Davey. They interact with students who have jobs outside of class for additional credits and get a feel for the work world.

Mr. Brino reported on the following:

- The Robotics Team recently returned from the World Championship in St. Louis, Missouri. They won their division and moved on to the World Championship where they were a semi-finalist and lost the third match to tie-breaker in the semi-final round.
- The Jazz and Orchestra Concerts were held last week; along with Marching Band, they are preparing for graduation and the Memorial Day parade.
- Senior Prom is May 21, 2016 at Aqua Turf.
- Scholarship Night is May 19. Both he and Chris Iverson will be receiving scholarships.
- Mr. Brino will be presenting his project at the Project Lead the Way Senior Night on May 25.
- Senior Class Night is May 26 at Oakdale Theater.
- Senior Class Day is May 27 at a facility in East Granby.
- Nationally, Southington finished in the top 100 in the Unlocker Challenge.

Mr. Goralski noted that Mr. Brino was being inducted as an Eagle Scout at a ceremony on Saturday, May 14.

8. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

a. Personnel Report

MOTION: by Mr. Derynoski, seconded by Mrs. Clark:

“Move to approve the Personnel Report, as presented.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting ~ May 3, 2016

The committee reviewed the revised documents for Family and Consumer Science, Grades 6-12 and recognized Mrs. Dottie Fontana, who was retiring, for her leadership in the area of Family and Consumer Science. The committee discussed and reviewed math textbooks for Grades 7 and 8 and Algebra I including the integration of technology using e-books and the cost associated with bundling and having both a hard copy textbook and e-book available. The committee members continued their discussion on enrollment in elective courses at the high school and the history and changes to senior privileges that occurred over the years. The Curriculum Committee will continue to gather information on the number of students who are leaving school early and the reasons why they are leaving.

Board members had a lengthy discussion on e-books as the way of the future versus hard textbooks and the cost associated with bundling and packaging both. They discussed Digital Access and using e-books online, which is constantly evolving. The e-books include links to videos and are interactive.

10. OLD BUSINESS

a. Town Government Communications

The Town Council budget hearing was held last week and, with the uncertainty of what is happening with the state budget, the Town Council **approved** cuts to the Board of Education budget of \$868,737 in the hope that funds will be restored once the state budget is finalized. When the state budget is finalized, Mr. Goralski will write a letter to the Board of Finance and Town Council for the **re-appropriation** of funds in the amount that was reduced. The Board members and administration discussed at length the Board of Education budget for 2016-2017 and moving forward once the state finalizes their budget. They have until June 30th to pass a balanced budget.

The Farm Heritage Committee and Town Council approved LEAF as the official non-profit to operate the farm on Belleview Avenue for five years. The In-Kind service between the Board of Education and the Farm Heritage Committee is the creating of opportunities for grants and the Ag-Science program at the high school.

The Turf Field Advisory Committee recently met and letters seeking advertisers have been mailed to members of the Chamber of Commerce and other businesses.

11. NEW BUSINESS

(Revised 5-26-16)

a. Textbook Approvals

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Queen:

“Move to approve the purchase of the Big Ideas math textbooks that are endorsed by the Curriculum and Instruction Committee.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

b. Curriculum Approval

MOTION: by Mrs. Carmody, seconded by Mrs. Queen:

“Move that the Board of Education supports the request from the Curriculum and Instruction Committee to approve the revised curriculum for Family and Consumer Science, Grades 6-12.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

c. District Data Team Presentation

Mr. Madancy gave a PowerPoint presentation on the work of the District Data Team to date, the next steps for the district, and how the district’s current work directly aligns with their vision and goals (*Attachment #1*). Discussed was what types of performance indicators they would be adopting, categories of indicators (academic, social, emotional, physical and 21st Century skills), and the different Data Teams (School Data Team, the In-Between Team, Instructional Data Team and Teacher-Centered Data Teams). The Board members had a lengthy discussion on 2020 Vision, 21st Century Skills, how to measure the progress of the whole child, critical thinking, how to measure success, and the vision of the future graduate. These changes will slowly evolve over time and have already been happening incrementally.

d. Energy Management Policy – First Reading

Mr. Goralski asked the Board members to review this policy and give feedback to Mrs. Queen before the next Board meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT

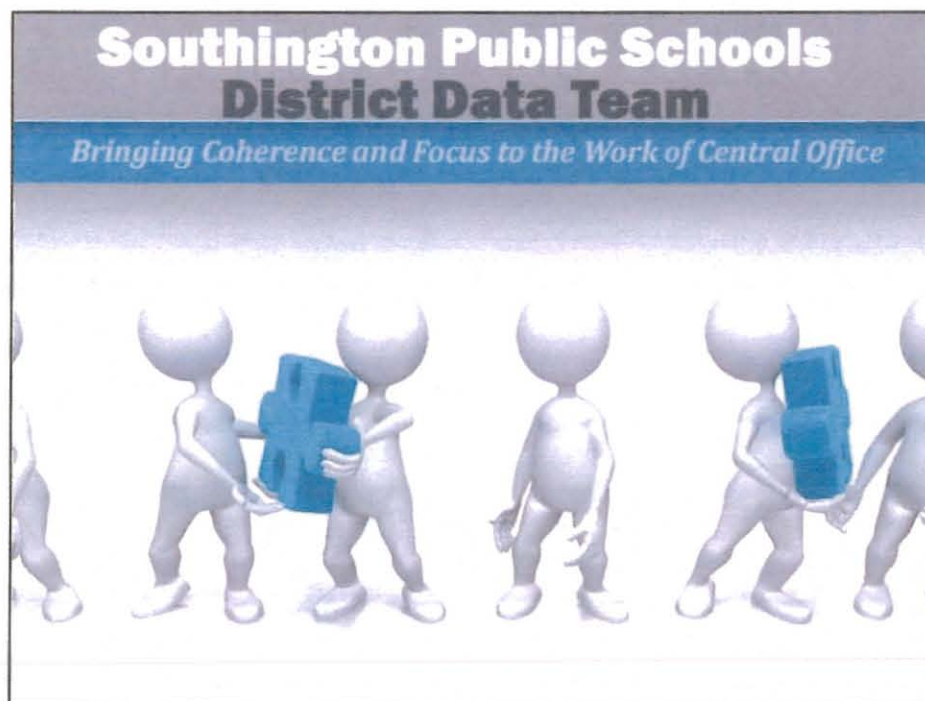
MOTION: by Mr. Derynoski, seconded by Mrs. Carmody:

“Move to adjourn.”

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Blanchard
Recording Secretary



A graphic titled "Our Members" in bold white text on a dark blue background. The background of the graphic features a white 3D figure on the left side. The members are listed in white text on a dark blue background. The list includes:

- Mr. Timothy Connellan
Superintendent of Schools
- Mr. Steven Madancy
Assistant Superintendent
- Ms. Margaret Walsh
Director of Pupil Personnel
- Mr. John Duffy
District Science Coordinator
- Mrs. Stephanie Lawlor
District Literacy Coordinator
- Ms. Dale Riedinger
District Math Coordinator
- Mrs. Dianne Holst-Grubbe
Assistant Principal, Southington High School
- Mr. Frank Pepe
Principal, DePaolo Middle School
- Mrs. Jan Verderame
Principal, Derynoski Elementary School
- Mr. Daniel Hart
Bargaining Unit Representative, Southington Education Association



Introduction

Over the years, Southington has taken a fragmented approach to the collection, analysis, and use of data to inform decision-making at the district, school, and classroom level.

Recognizing this, the district has worked with recognized Data Team facilitator Michael Wasta in order to take a more deliberate approach to the use of data in our system.



First Steps

Michael recommended that we start with the following action:

- *Assemble a small team that includes District leadership, building leadership, and bargaining unit representation, to review and identify indicators that represent the priorities of the Southington Public Schools.*



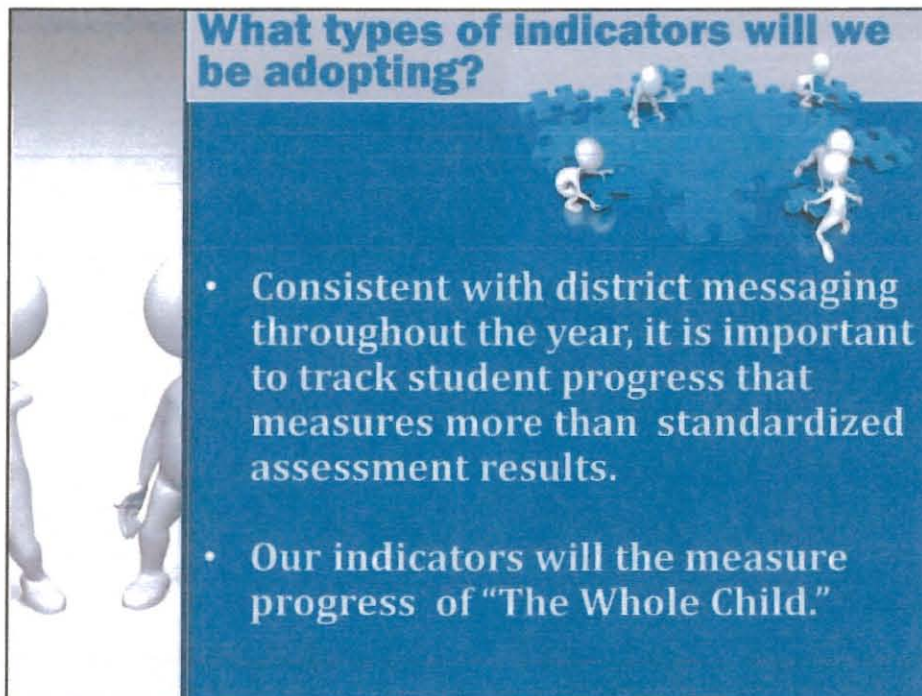
Other Purposes of the Team

- Ensure coherence
- Help schools and districts make improvements
- Show where support is needed most
- Recognize successes
- Promote transparency
- Satisfy federal and state requirements



Other Recommendations

Hold as many meetings as possible early on (To date we have met 6 times) to identify, measure and prioritize the indicators that best measure and represent the progress of our students towards the ends articulated within the "Vision of a Graduate"



What types of indicators will we be adopting?

- Consistent with district messaging throughout the year, it is important to track student progress that measures more than standardized assessment results.
- Our indicators will measure the progress of "The Whole Child."

Categories of Indicators

Academic

- Will include indicators currently monitored at the state level relative to standardized assessments, SRBI, or course offerings.
- Can also include indicators relative to district assessments.

Sample

- Percentage of students demonstrating mastery of grade level standards in ELA and math.
- Percentage of students exceeding mastery of grade level standards in ELA and math.
- Percentage of students demonstrating mastery of grade level standards in ELA and math in subgroups of: Special Ed, EL, Free/Reduced.

Categories of Indicators

Social, Emotional, and Physical

- Will include indicators beyond academic progress including the fitness levels of students, use of counseling for emotional needs, and participation in the arts in extracurricular activities.

Sample

- Percentage of elementary, middle, and high school students attending 90% of the school year.
- Percentage of Grade 4, 6, 8, and 10 students meeting or exceeding the state health standard.
- Number/Percentage in behavioral tiered intervention levels.

Categories of Indicators

21st Century

- Will include indicators that recognize district priorities towards the 21st century skills and knowledge we feel are essential for our graduates.

Samples from our grid

- Percentage of students successfully completing at least one online course prior to graduation.
- Percentage of students demonstrating mastery in a second language.

21st Century Indicators

21st Century

- It's important to note that 21st century indicators identified may not yet have data or even curriculum and structures in place to support student progress. You may find the term "under construction" within these indicators.
- Identification and adoption of these indicators represents a district commitment to the growth and development of these areas. Additionally, these indicators will serve as levers in identifying in maintaining district priorities and deflecting competing initiatives.

Outcome Indicators

How do we focus on so many outcome indicators?

District Team

(Very broad; high leverage)

School Teams

(Tighter focus)

Teacher Teams

(Very tight focus)

School Data Team

A critical connection
between the work of the
district and the work of the
teachers.

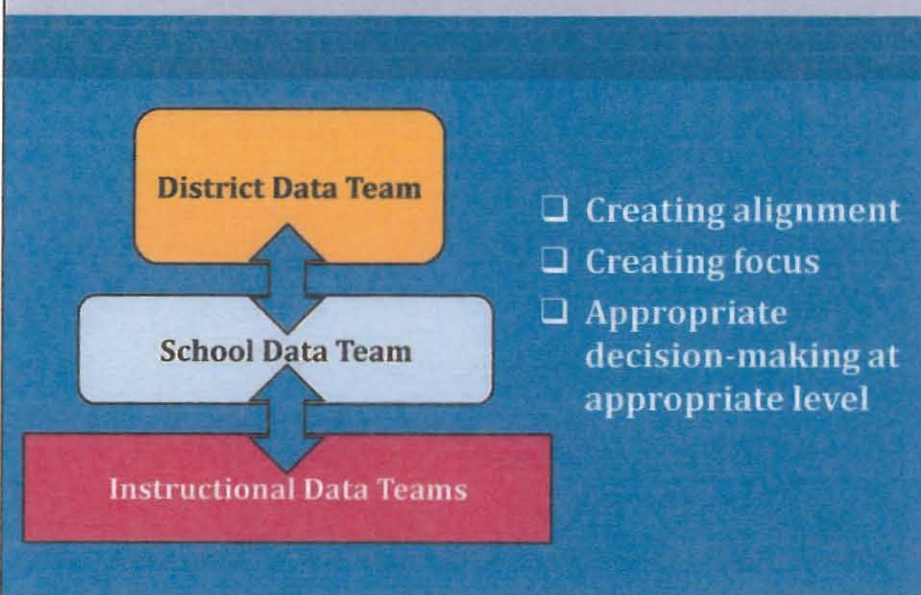


Scaled Approach

Schools will then
monitor indicators
that are relevant to
the content areas
and levels they
service to track
local and overall
district progress of
these indicators.



The “In-Between” Team



School Data Team

ELEMENTARY

Administration, a representative, generally from each grade-level team, related services staff

SECONDARY

Administration, a representative from each department, related services staff

School Data Team

PURPOSE

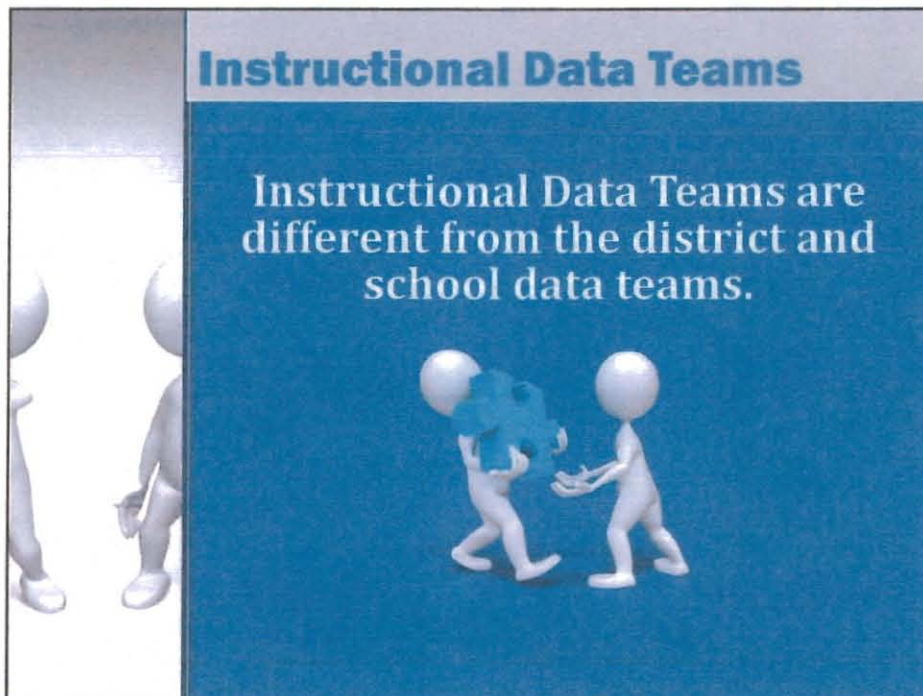
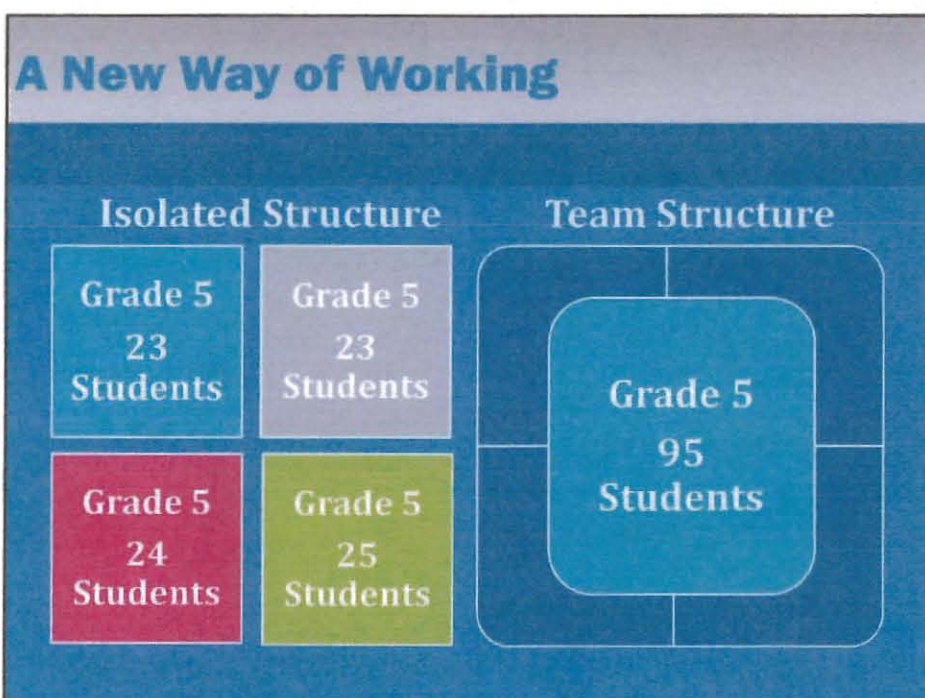
1. Carry out actions designed by the District Data Team.
2. Design, implement, and monitor a school improvement plan that is aligned with the district's Student Outcome Indicators.
3. Coordinate the work of the grade-level, common-course Data Teams.

School Data Team

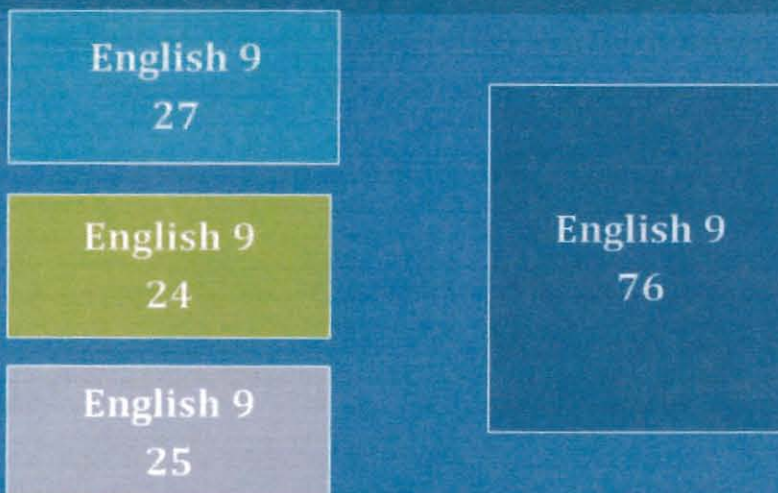
- ☐ A school must set a target for each Student Outcome Indicator identified by the Task Force appropriate to the level of the school.
- ☐ A school may add a student outcome indicator.

Instructional Data Teams

Instructional Data Teams are different from the district and school data teams.

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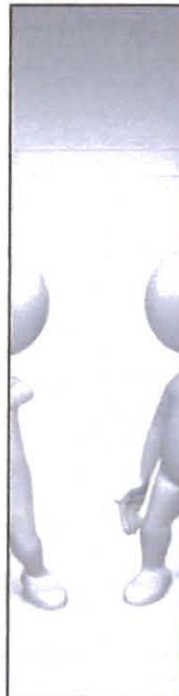
A Secondary Example



Teacher-Centered Data Teams





A powerful structure to allow teachers to solve increasingly difficult instructional problems.



Next Steps for the DDT

- ❖ Finalizing the grid that articulates the adopted indicators, how they are measured, and current baseline levels of progress.
- ❖ Sharing this grid districtwide for feedback and input.
- ❖ Presentation to the Board of Education for adoption.

In Closing

All of our current district work directly aligns with the vision and goals of our district data team.

- ❖ SRBI ~ Developing systems that monitor and assist students across tiers.
- ❖ SchoolNet ~ Tool for monitoring and reporting progress of indicators.
- ❖ 21st Century Skills ~ More may be added after the adoption of the "Vision of a Graduate."