Memorandum | Department of Community School

Date: October 27, 2022

To: GOAL Digital Academy Administrators and Governing Board Members

From: Jim Smith, Sponsor Liaison and Mid-Ohio ESC Sponsoring Staff

Subject: October Monthly Updates

General Update

Hello Everyone,

As a sponsor of GOAL Digital Academy, one of the requirements is to collect data from at least three stakeholder groups over the course of a school year. One of the stakeholder groups I recently collected data from was the GOAL Digital Academy's staff. They were asked to take a survey, with a total of 68 responses completed. This represented 91% of the 75 total GOAL Digital Academy's staff. The sponsor wanted to obtain information about the general operation of the school and how the staff felt about a number of issues. The results of the survey were shared with the superintendent at GOAL Digital Academy who will also share these results with her staff.

Below is a summary of the survey results, which are rounded to the nearest whole number. The actual graphs as well as comments made by the staff are attached to this newsletter.

1. **Staff members treat one another with respect.**
    a. 23 or 34% of the staff members strongly agree
    b. 37 or 54% of the staff members agree
    c. 3 or 4% of the staff members neither agree nor disagree
    d. 0 or 0% of the staff members disagree
    e. 1 or 1% of the staff members strongly disagree
    f. 1 or 1% of the staff members replied not applicable
    g. 3 or 4% of the staff members replied other

2. **Students and staff members treat each other with respect.**
    a. 18 or 26% of the staff members strongly agree
    b. 43 or 63% of the staff members agree
    c. 6 or 9% of the staff members neither agree nor disagree
    d. 0 or 0% of the staff members disagree

e. 0 or 0% of the staff members strongly disagree
f. 0 or 0% of the staff members replied not applicable
g. 1 or 1% of the staff members replied other

3. **Most staff members are enthusiastic about teaching and communicate this to their students.**
    a. 21 or 31% of the staff members strongly agree
    b. 36 or 53% of the staff members agree
    c. 9 or 13% of the staff members neither agree nor disagree
    d. 1 or 1% of the staff members disagree
    e. 0 or 0% of the staff members strongly disagree
    f. 0 or 0% of staff members replied not applicable
    g. 1 or 1% of the staff members replied other

4. **The school consistently enforces the code of student conduct.**
    a. 15 or 22% of the staff members strongly agree
    b. 37 or 54% of the staff members agree
    c. 7 or 10% of the staff members neither agree nor disagree
    d. 5 or 7% of the staff members disagree
    e. 0 or 0% of staff members strongly disagree
    f. 1 or 1% of staff members replied not applicable
    g. 3 or 4% of staff members replied other

5. **The school community has high expectations of all students.**
    a. 19 or 30% of the staff members strongly agree
    b. 35 or 51% of the staff members agree
    c. 6 or 9% of the staff members neither agree nor disagree
    d. 7 or 10% of the staff members disagree
    e. 0 or 0% of the staff members strongly disagree
    f. 0 or 0% of staff members replied not applicable
    g. 1 or 1% of the staff members replied other

6. **I have access to the tools to do my job.**
    a. 27 or 40% of the staff members strongly agree
    b. 36 or 53% of the staff members agree
    c. 2 or 3% of the staff members neither agree nor disagree
    d. 2 or 3% of the staff members disagree
    e. 0 or 0% of the staff members strongly disagree
    f. 0 or 0% of staff members replied not applicable
    g. 1 or 1% of staff members replied other

7. **I am satisfied with opportunities for my professional growth.**
    a. 27 or 40% of the staff members strongly agree
    b. 26 or 38% of the staff members agree

c. 9 or 13% of the staff members neither agree nor disagree
d. 5 or 7% of the staff members disagree
e. 1 or 1% of the staff members strongly disagree
f. 0 or 0% of the staff members replied not applicable
g. 0 or 0% of the staff members replied other

8. **I understand what is expected of me in my roles and responsibilities as a staff member.**
    a. 26 or 38% of the staff members strongly agree
    b. 35 or 51% of the staff members agree
    c. 1 or 1% of the staff members neither agree nor disagree
    d. 3 or 4% of the staff members disagree
    e. 1 or 1% of the staff members strongly disagree
    f. 0 or 0% of the staff members replied not applicable
    g. 2 or 3% of staff members replied other

9. **School administrators and staff members communicate with each other effectively.**
    a. 14 or 21% of the staff members strongly agree
    b. 28 or 41% of the staff members agree
    c. 12 or 18% of the staff members neither agree nor disagree
    d. 9 or 13% of the staff members disagree
    e. 2 or 3% of the staff members strongly disagree
    f. 1 or 1% of staff members replied not applicable
    g. 2 or 3% of staff members replied other

10. **Parents know what is going on in this school.**
    a. 7 or 10% of the staff members strongly agree
    b. 42 or 62% of the staff members agree
    c. 13 or 19% of the staff members neither agree nor disagree
    d. 2 or 3% of the staff members disagree
    e. 2 or 3% of staff members strongly disagree
    f. 2 or 3% of staff members replied not applicable
    g. 0 or 0% of staff members replied other

If you have any questions, please contact me. As always, thank you for all you do to support the students and staff at GOAL Digital Academy.

Legislative and Policy Updates

We are rapidly approaching the end of Ohio's current Biennium (2-year budget cycle). One of the first responsibilities of the Governor in January (and the 135th General Assembly prior to June 30, 2023) will be to enact a new 2-year budget to begin on July 1, 2023. State agencies, including the State Board of Education, are in the process of preparing their budget recommendations for the Governor to consider. At its meeting this month, the Board of Education received the recommendations of its Budget Committee and the Ohio Department of

Education Staff for consideration. Literacy, learning acceleration, and workforce readiness are key areas in which funding increases are being proposed.

1. An increase of $56 million in combined state and federal funding has been proposed for literacy. Three focus areas have been identified: employment of literacy coaches, teacher professional development, and collaboration with the Ohio Department of Higher Education to align teacher preparation with evidenced-based strategies for instructing reading.
2. Learning Acceleration (read as COVID catch-up) would provide funding for before- and after-school programing and summer school. There is an interest in school systems partnering with other community groups on these programs.

In addition to increases in funding, the proposal includes reducing expenses, largely through efficiencies, of $26 million in the first year of the biennium and $29 million in the second.

A greater overview of ODE's budget considerations may be viewed in this month's report to the Board by the Interim Superintendent:
http://public.education.ohio.gov/StateBoardBooks/2022%20-%20Board%20Books/October%20-%202022/Superintendent%20Report/Interim%20Supt%20Report%20Presentation%20Oct%202022.pdf

The Board's amended resolution on budget priorities may be viewed at:
http://public.education.ohio.gov/StateBoardBooks/2022%20-%20Board%20Books/October%20-%202022/Voting%20Items/Item%2026%20-%20State%20Board%202024-2025%20Biennial%20Budget%20Request%20-Amendment.pdf

The second major matter considered by the Board was a resolution to oppose the recent expansion of rules related to (federal) Title IX. Had the Board approved either the original Member Sponsors Resolution or the amended resolution, ODE and Ohio would have been in direct opposition of the federal government's new rules. Rather than voting to approve or disapprove either of the resolutions, the Board voted to send them to the Board's Executive Committee.

The original resolution may be viewed at:
http://public.education.ohio.gov/StateBoardBooks/2022%20-%20Board%20Books/October%20-%202022/Voting%20Items/Item%2027%20-%20Resolution%20to%20Support%20Parents%20Schools%20and%20Districts%20in%20Rejecting%20Harmful%20Coercive%20and%20Burdensome%20Gender%20Identity%20Policies.pdf

Members of the General Assembly have been largely working at home in their districts and campaigning for reelection this fall. That will change after Election Day when members return to Columbus for what is often referred to as the Lame Duck Session. At this point, if a legislative proposal has not been approved by one chamber of the Assembly it is unlikely to complete the legislative process by the time the 134th General Assembly ends, unless it is a particularly pressing piece of legislation. Then again surprises do happen.

Recently, Senator Hoagland introduced legislation (SB361) seeking to expand the opportunity for veterans to become teachers. As proposed, SB-361 would grant permissive authority to schools/school districts to employ veterans who:

1. completed at least 48 months of active duty and were honorably discharged
2. completed at least 60 college credits with a GPA of 2.5
3. demonstrated mastery of the subject to be taught as determined by the school governing authority, and
4. met at least one of the following
    a. has a letter from a commanding officer stating that the veteran is qualified to teach
    b. earned certification from the US Navy as a Master Training Specialist
    c. served as a training officer as lead instructor
    d. served as a noncommissioned officer, warrant officer, or senior enlisted person

Want to catch up on the status of every bill that has been introduced into the 134th General Assembly for consideration? Visit https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/search, which offers a searchable database of all versions of a bill, LSC's analysis to the proposal, testimony given to the committee(s) considering the bill, votes that have been taken, etc.