

**Minutes Academics Committee Meeting
The Board of Trustees
Finn Academy: An Elmira Charter School

610 Lake Street Elmira, New York 14901**

**May 22, 2019
2:30 PM**

Present: Lynn, Katie, Martina, Jeremy, Maya

1. SUNY feedback summary

- Jeremy reviewed the most salient feedback from the recent SUNY visit:
 - a. Continuing to develop clear systems for reviewing data, providing feedback to teachers, monitoring what teachers do with data and feedback, and evaluating effectiveness, and creating school wide containers to share school data around the curriculum, Go math assessments and EL unit and module assessments.

Finn is piloting an electronic feedback system called Bulls Eye that assists him in providing teachers with specific feedback on specific objectives at least once every two weeks. This will help him to more quickly provide teachers with tangible, specific feedback based on expectations. This system will also allow him to provide the board with general data on teacher proficiency in scholar engagement.
 - b. Development of academics of middle school program. The SUNY evaluators will need to see it when they come in the fall.
 - c. Capacity for leadership to provide consistent, equitable feedback system considering the size of our school now.

Jeremy also reviewed the 4 main areas of the SUNY evaluators' observations:

- Effective checks for understanding – continuous formative assessment
- Higher order thinking – more difficult area to observe.
- Classroom environment and urgency and culture of learning – are teachers maximizing instructional time and are teachers creating a sense of urgency to perform
- Purposeful instruction and lesson making - are these well planned
- SUNY feedback was positive around:
 - Go Math. Teachers feel they have clear resources, expectations, comfort level with training.
 - Other positives included common co-planning time, PLs – especially for Go Math and EL, and the
 - Mentoring program.
- Katie asked about how PL topics are established. Jeremy explained that it is based on both what he sees in his observations and what staff express that they need. That's the beauty of having PL so often (weekly).

2. Two internal committees – curriculum/instruction and outcomes/assessment

The O/A committee has met to established purpose. This committee will report out to the Academics committee, who will then share out to the board. The committee reviewed what we currently use as progress reports, what the grade 6-7 report card will look like, School Toll – record keeping, RTI and AIS data, what data the board might want to see around the intervention and at risk data, and future meeting dates (monthly or every other month).

3. Other data the board would like to see beyond what is on the dashboard.

NWEA and state assessment data

- Lynn asked for data on the accuracy of NWEA projections once the state test scores are available – what proportion of scholars who were predicted to move from a 2 to a 3 actually did make that move.
- General data on teacher proficiency and scholar engagement, as these reports are generated via Bulls Eye
- Data on RTI and AIS progress, SPED numbers, and at-risk numbers, as these reports are generated via School Tool.