

**SHERMAN BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2019**  
**THE SHERMAN SCHOOL - LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER**

**Vision Statement**

**We enable all Sherman Students to become the best possible version of themselves.  
We provide an environment where our children develop into empathetic, self-directed,  
critical thinkers who don't give up when faced with challenges.**

A Curriculum Committee Meeting of the Sherman Board of Education was called to order at 4:51 PM on October 1, 2019 by Mrs. Enright.

**1. PRESENT:**

For the Board: Mrs. Enright, Mrs. Diotte, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Lenihan and  
Mr. Laughlin  
Administration: Dr. Melendez and Mrs. Snowden

**2. DISCUSSED:**

Mrs. Snowden presented 2018-2019 SBAC data and reviewed by committee.

Data shows the percentage of total students grades 3-8, 2018-2019 school year who met or exceeded expectations (3 or 4) SBAC ELA has declined steadily since 2015. 2018-2019 school year scores show that only 62.6% of students scored in the 3-4 range. This score is slightly above the state average and lower than A, B and C DRG averages.

Data shows the percentage of total students grades 3-8, 2018-2019 school year who met or exceeded expectations (3 or 4) SBAC Math show that there has been a decline from 2015-2016 (63.2%) and 2016-2017 (61.5 %) school year, but an increase from 2017-2018 school year (56.9%). 2018-2019 school year scores show that only 58.8% of students grades 3-8 scored in the 3-4 range. This score is slightly above the state average and lower than A, B and C DRG averages.

The members requested presenting data that shows percentages of students achieving 3-4 in such a way that does not compromise student identity and confidentiality and adheres to state suppression guidelines. This data will be presented at regular board meeting. Data presented does suggest that there are a great number of students in total that are not achieving a 3-4.

Data shows that students scored better on Star testing than on SVAC. Mrs. Diotte and Mrs. Enright and others questioned how these scores are discrepant from scores on SBAC. No clear reason could be discerned at this time. Mrs. Snowden stated this is something that would be analyzed.

2018-2019 scores show that students achieved overall growth. Discussion took place of state's rationale for requiring this data be collected, to encourage focus and importance to foster growth for even those students who score below a 1 or 2. Discussion took place recognizing importance of growth made in Sherman and this should be celebrated. However, it was also

pointed out that the percentage of students scoring in 3-4 range barely reaching the 60% range and below in Math and ELA is not acceptable and below the average in all DRGs.

Mrs. Enright started the discussion of district targets for SBAC by recommending a district goal, or objective quantifying our goal of ensuring vigorous curriculum, that 100% of our students will reach a 3 or 4 on SBACs.

Dr. Melendez stated that changes could be made to schedule configurations and modification of other priorities to achieve the goal. Mrs. Enright disagreed and stated that this test actually measures understanding of important standards and concepts that students should understand and master in order to progress academically. She also stated that we would not be teaching to a test but rather, teaching important Math and ELA concepts and SBACs are a way to measure if students are reaching proficiency as is the case in neighboring districts.

Mrs. Enright further stated that the school already has steps in place to address and remediate a long standing and recognized problem in our school and that remediation is already a priority. Setting measurable, percentage targets will quantify and hold the administration accountable and can be used as part of administration evaluation and that improvement in SBAC and deliverance of vigorous curriculum is already a priority in place. Mrs. Lenihan stated that focus should also be given to instruction and curriculum delivery if an overall goal is to be put in place. Mrs. Enright stated that a district target will help better structure teacher evaluations (addressing Mrs. Snowden's remark that teachers have already addressed in student learning objectives) and can structure data gathering not just on student weaknesses, but patterns in classroom instruction. Mrs. Enright reminded members that we now have a Math Interventionist in place and that this position should be used to collect both performance and delivery data. Mrs. Enright also noted that we have four administrators in place, with part of that rationale for such being teacher evaluations. Mrs. Enright reiterated importance of accountability.

Dr. Melendez asked to what end people will be held accountable. Mrs. Enright stated that these are decisions to be made by the administration, but can be used by board to evaluate administration.

Mrs. Diotte asked what the formal proposal and recommendation should be from the committee. Mrs. Enright stated that there is no formal proposal that the Curriculum Committee could propose at this time as there was not a consensus on how to proceed. She also stated this lack of consensus seems to be a trend year over year. Mrs. Enright recommend 100% of our students will reach a 3 or 4 on SBACs.

Mrs. Enright suggested district targets for SBAC as a district goal, or any objective quantification of our goal ensuring vigorous curriculum should be discussed at next BoE meeting.

### **3. ADJOURNED**

Meeting adjourned by Mrs. Enright at 6:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Themis Enright  
Chair, Curriculum Committee  
Sherman Board of Education