

December 7, 2015

**MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF SOUTH LYON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
DISTRICT #63-240 COUNTIES OF
OAKLAND, LIVINGSTON AND WASHTENAW
HELD AT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

CALL TO ORDER

President Brummer called the study session of December 7, 2015 to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Anthony Abbate, Steve Brummer, Randy Clark, Carrie Hanshaw, Michele Lurz,
Amy McCusker

Absent: Justin Gusick

Others Present: Melissa Baker, Superintendent
Lisa Kudwa, Asst. Superintendent

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Brummer offered an opportunity for public comments. There were no comments.

GRADING AND REPORTING

Mrs. Kudwa reviewed the district's grading and reporting practices, as they were established by the Grading and Reporting Committee that met in 2002. The district utilizes a standards-based grading system. In a standards-based grading system, the information communicated to families reflects how well a student knows and understands the standards addressed at the grade level or in a course.

Within a standards-based system, grades should not be impacted by elements like participation, extra credit or compliance with rules. Rather, behavioral accolades or concerns are reported via Habits of Mind comments and scores.

At the elementary level, mastery levels on the key standards in reading, writing, mathematics and social studies are reported, with mastery in science being reported by unit. Elementary mastery levels are reported four times a year.

At the high school level, schools utilize a traditional 4.0 grading system. Grades are reported 6 times a year - four progress reports and two official semester report cards.

Mrs. Kudwa explained that the middle school's 12 point grade system was devised by the Grading and Reporting committee to bridge the elementary and high school systems by evening out the impact of a zero or a failing grade. Middle school staff may score individual assignments or assessments on a percentage scale, using rubrics or using mastery criteria. How a percentage correct is converted into a score on the 12 point grading scale was explained. Some common misconceptions or concerns about the online gradebook system were discussed.

The Grading and Reporting Committee will be reconvened in several years once all courses in the district are fully aligned to Michigan's state standards for ELA and mathematics. At that time the committee will review current practices and make recommendations for potential changes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Brummer offered a second opportunity for public comments. There were no comments.

ADJOURN

Moved by Mrs. McCusker, supported by Mrs. Hanshaw to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Ayes – 6, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carrie L. Hanshaw', written in a cursive style.

Carrie L. Hanshaw
Secretary