

# Instructional Leadership Council

## Meeting Minutes for September 30, 2021

**Attendees:** Julie Barker, Jessica Bonadio, Gina Brown, Angela Carpin, ~~Sumara Case~~, Tracy Castleberry, Dwayne Cerbone, ~~Jeff Cimmerer~~, Heather Clayton, Maribeth Curran, Kathy Curtis, ~~Shana Cutaia~~, Liesa Erhlich, Monica Gebell, Sarah Jacob, Amanda Kirkebye, Matt Kwiatkowski, Sheila Lecce, ~~Esther Marino~~, Lenore McPherson, Kate Milne, Teresa Roets, Tish Romas, Toni Stevens-Oliver, Melanie Ward, Elizabeth Woods

**Chairperson:** Melanie Ward

**Co-Chair:** Julie Barker

**Note Taker:** Laurie Hummel

*Approved minutes are on the Pittsford School District ILC webpage and members can access in Microsoft Teams.*

**June 3, 2021 Minutes** approved with change.

### **Welcome and Introductions.**

**Committee Code of Conduct:** The committee chair read the [District-Chartered Committee Code of Conduct](#) developed by DPT, noting the importance of having a shared idea of what it is to be part of a district-chartered committee. It is a big responsibility with equally big rewards. It is a privilege to be selected by peers to represent them in this significant work. Each ILC member will sign the form to indicate their understanding and agreement of their responsibilities.

You can find the [Committee Member Code of Conduct](#) on the District Website.

### **Discussion of current issues:**

**Asst. Superintendent for Instruction:** There is a lot going on in the District. Our kids and staff are suffering from the trauma of a global pandemic. Our kids are displaying significant levels of concern. Some of those things connect directly to the work done at ILC.

We all need to be encouraged to make space every day for students to relearn behaviors and routines and to talk about what is on their minds. The road mapping work was done to leave room on our plates for time to take care of kids' social emotional well-being. It is what is needed to get them to the place where they can learn.

**PDIA:** It is an honor to work with children but the school cannot fix the world's issues. We can do the best we can. The challenge is to find that time to pause. Use the *Guides to the Essentials/Roadmaps* documents to carve out that time.

**PTSA:** The key piece for all parents to know is to stop and listen. PTSA partners with that thinking. Kids need an adult to connect with them.

**Teachers:** We can improve to the best of our ability. Our charge has always been: when the kids come to school, whoever you are, we embrace you and will teach you to be your best and do your best.

What can we learn from this situation? Be more cognizant of what is happening in the hallway. Be a trusted adult. We are proud of our kids. Look for positives. Adults are in an unfamiliar situation right now. Support each other.

**Warm up Activity:** The Director of the Teacher Center led a community building activity with the members. Connect with Julie Barker if you would like to use the activity with your constituent groups.

### **Review of Committee Survey results:**

The group looked for strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for growth by reviewing the results of the ILC Committee self-assessment.

Overall, members feel good about the significance of the committee and the work done. Strong participation, respect and well-distributed representation are areas of strength.

Opportunities for improvements discussed were in the areas of communication with constituent groups, setting more attainable goals and efficiency with topic timelines.

The Chair and Co-chair reminded the group about the importance of each member and their constituent representation. Know that there is a teacher at the table building the agenda. Members are invited to share topics for the agenda.

The group agreed the survey showed ILC self-assessed as a high functioning committee.

**NYSED Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education Framework:** The committee studied this document and the implications for work as a district and committee. The Board of Regents has directed schools to follow this pathway.

Background:

The State calls out the responsibilities of all members of the school community within the [Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Framework](#) document and its principles.

A portion of this document was reviewed at the PCSD Summer Leadership meeting. The Summer Leadership meeting attendees drafted equity goals for the District which were adopted by the Board of Education in September.

As educators, we think about all backgrounds that kids come with and how to build on who they are as we prepare them for graduation.

Specific Goals that fall under the responsibility of ILC:

- Embedded professional learning opportunities around equity within building level and district level structures.
- Represent diversity with common resources used in K-12 instruction.
- K-12 Social Studies curriculum that reflects our commitment to culturally responsive-sustaining education.
- Integration of NYS Social Emotional Learning benchmarks into new and revised curriculum.
- Build a process for identifying students for AP classes that defies barriers. A study to get voices involved to learn how to address them is in process.
- Evaluate and recommend any necessary changes to 4-6th grade math grouping practices.
- Identify and implement equity analysis protocols for curriculum and non-curriculum learning experiences.

**Roundtable:** Representatives share what is going on in their areas/buildings.

- Special Education: SEAC spent time tying in the District's equity work and their committee goals to support through the disability lens.
- PDTA: Is engaging teachers and paraprofessionals with an affinity group to talk about topics.
- PTSA's Super Sale fundraiser is coming up. Support or sign up on the [PTSA website](#).
- The social worker at MHS has set up restorative circles in the building.
- Middle School Social Studies teachers worked with the CRMS and BRMS libraries to set up "Colors of the World" materials. Kits with crayons, markers, pens, etc. can be checked-out of the schools' libraries.
- Elementary school counselors have set up community circles with students.
- IRE is grateful for their paraprofessionals.
- TRE continues the partnership with the Jewish Federation in Modi'in with five partnership classes in their building.
- The Teacher Center Director shared the NYS Teacher Center Challenge based on the United Way Equity challenge.

**Bring back to constituent groups:**

- [The NYSED Responsive-Sustaining Equity Framework document is on the State website.](#)
- Support the message of taking the time to tend to emotional wellness for our kids. Use the *Guides to the Essentials/Instructional Roadmapping* documents to allow for that space.

**Next ILC agenda:** Alignment of District Equity Goals and existing ILC Goals

**Next Meeting:** Nov. 4, 2021 - No Oct. Meeting.