Board Resolution

RESOLUTION

College and Career Readiness Indicators for Pittsburgh Public Schools

WHEREAS schools have a profound responsibility to ensure that our nation’s 50 million students are college ready, career ready and life ready; and

WHEREAS Pittsburgh Public Schools has identified ensuring all students are equipped with the skills to succeed in college, career and life as one of four long-term outcomes in its 2017-2022 Strategic Plan Expect Great Things; and

WHEREAS standardized test scores, which have traditionally been used as the sole indicator of college and career readiness, fail to portray a comprehensive picture of student potential; and

WHEREAS elementary and middle school students are engaged in a world that was hard to imagine a decade ago and need to be prepared with 21st century skills to participate in a future that they will help create; and

WHEREAS according to ACT, out of 1.9 million test takers, only 40 percent of the 2015 high school graduating class across the United States was deemed college ready by meeting three or four of the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks and only 41.9 percent of the class of 2015 met the SAT College and Career Readiness Benchmark; and

WHEREAS in the School District of Pittsburgh 19.4 percent of the Class of 2017 met the SAT College and Career Readiness Benchmark; and

WHEREAS a broader multi-measure approach indicates that 35.8 percent of these Pittsburgh Public Schools 2017 graduates were ready for college-level coursework and 63.3 percent of 2016 graduates enrolled in college and many more demonstrate success in the work force; and

WHEREAS the existing one-score-fits-all approach is unfair to 21st century students; and

WHEREAS AASA – the School Superintendents Association launched a national campaign called Redefining Ready! which proposes new research-based metrics and indicators to more authentically and appropriately assess and demonstrate high school graduates’ readiness to survive and thrive in their futures; and

WHEREAS the new readiness indicators reflect and give credibility to work underway as part of Pittsburgh Public Schools 2017-2022 Strategic Plan: Expect Great Things;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education and School District of Pittsburgh adopt the framework of multiple readiness indicators proposed in the Redefining Ready! campaign to more accurately assess students’ readiness to succeed in college, career and life.

Adopted this 25th day of April 2018.