

## High Student Achievement Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2014

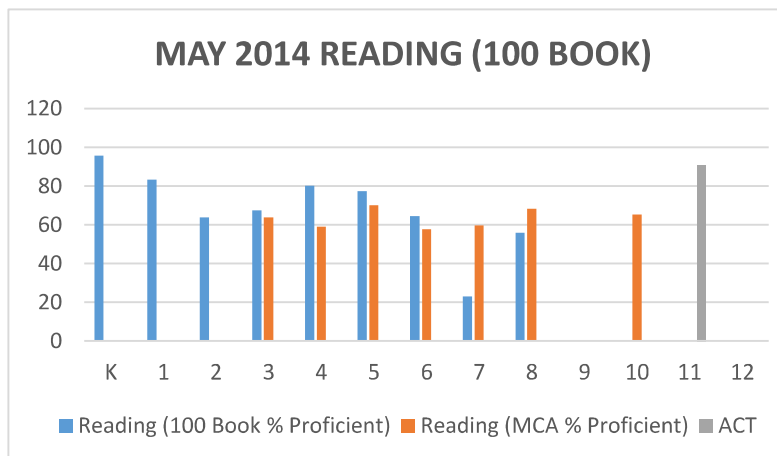
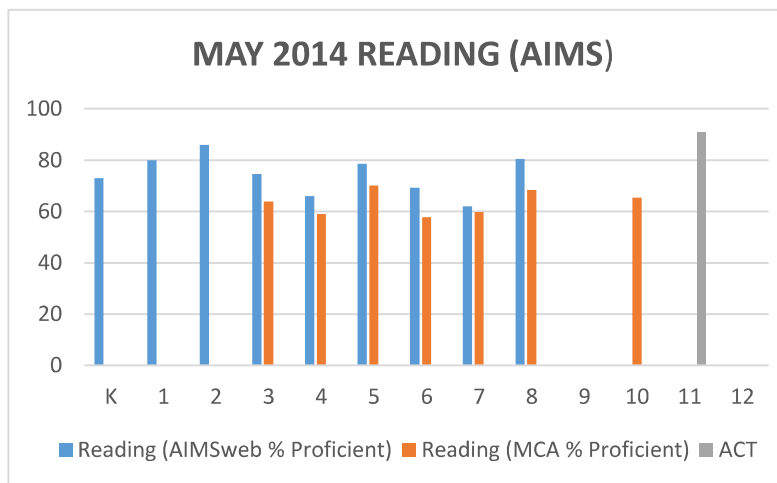
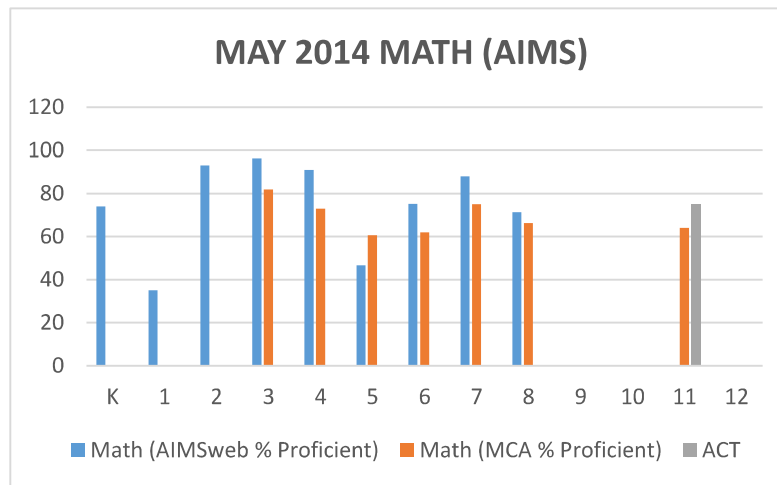
Members present: Jen Wernau, Shawn Hunsakor, Dorothy Walston, Shannon Kelley, Becky Collins, Cindy Hansen, Josh Westphal.

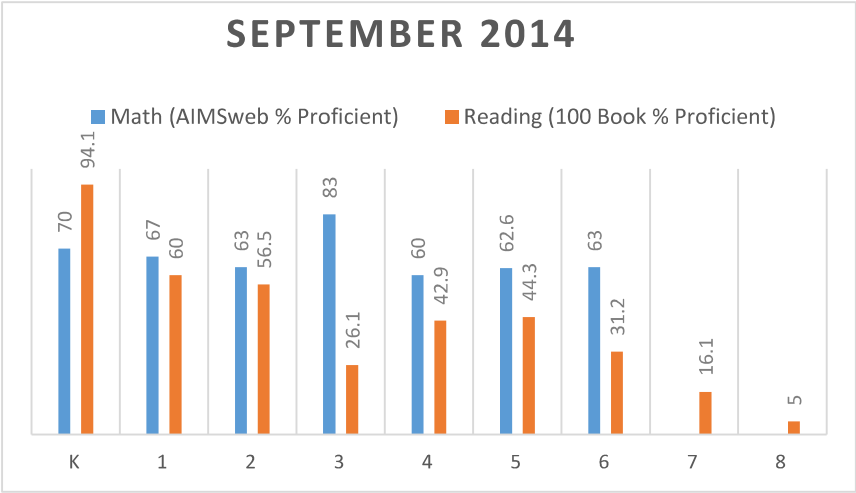
Guests present: Larissa Kabat, Megan Schimek, Mark Passow

### I. Strategic Plan Review: Reports

- A. *Assess inclusion of STEM Courses and programs in district curriculum; determine path forward from results of this assessment* (Project Lead the Way teachers)
- Mark Passow, PLTW teacher for middle school, discussed the Design and Modeling course for sixth grade. Curriculum is challenging for students, particularly the math concepts. Activities are engaging.
  - Megan Schimek, PLTW teacher for high school, discussed Principles of Biomedical Sciences. 100% of students passed the test to receive college credit. Last year, there were 6 students in PBS, this year there are 31 students in PBS -- 3 of them are sophomores who haven't had biology, which can cause difficulty. Next year, we will offer Human Body Systems.
  - Important that students and parents know that the course is challenging.
  - PLTW says it's designed for all students, but realistically it does not seem that way -- more of an enrichment, because some students get frustrated
  - Positives: Gives kids an opportunity who might be interested in biomedical sciences, more project-based and engaging learning activities, "I just love coming to this class because I know I'm going to do something".
  - Challenges: Kids who aren't prepared or motivated, some MS curriculum might be a little too challenging (or out of alignment)
- B. *Strengthen professional learning communities* (PLC team leaders)
- Larissa Kabat (HS), Jen Wernau (HS), and Becky Collins (ES) reported as PLC team leaders
  - Shift from teaching to learning
  - Focus on data collection
  - In theory, PLCs function well in a larger setting with multiple teachers for each subject area.
  - PLCs work well at the elementary level
  - PLCs struggled at the high school level last year because of the schedule and "singletons"
  - Schedule is much better this year because of Tuesday late starts
  - Positives: Time that's being provided, professional conversations about assessments, merging of data coaches/ACT/PLCs at the right time. We're in a very good place right now.
  - Challenges: Data is difficult for singletons
  - **Possible goal: more vertical conversations**
  - **Possible goal: team teaching**

## II. Student Achievement Data Review





**III. Innovation Application Review**

None at this time.