

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MINUTES

August 31, 2009

WARREN COUNTY CAREER CENTER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Jack Martin, Chairperson

Mr. Arthur Stewart

Mrs. Donna Zariczny (for Mr. David Wortman)

Mrs. Amy Stewart

Ms. Amanda Hetrick

Mrs. Rosemarie Green

Mrs. Diane Martin

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. David Wortman

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dr. Robert Terrill

Kimberly Angove

Tom Knapp

Katherine Oudinot

Jeff Lockett

Dr. Karen Pascale

Paul Giannini

John Grant

Delores Berry

Louise Tharp

Stacey Ludwig

Debra Bosko

Lisa Niedzialek

Colin Kyler, WTO

1. Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Dr. Jack Martin.

1.2 Public Comment – There were no public comments.

2. Old Business

2.1 Policy 9742 and Policy 9743 – Class Rank/Honors Credits

Discussion:

There was discussion regarding how to make the policies fair to both cyber school program students and students that attend in the school buildings. It was asked if the cyber school program could establish its own rankings, but this would require the start of a new school in our district that must be approved by the state. A committee member noted that, if the policies were changed as was suggested, it would be discriminatory toward the cyber school program students.

Action:

It was decided that no changes would be made to the policies, and this item was removed from the table. It was also mentioned that cyber school program final exams would be closely monitored.

3. New Business

3.1 Summary to Complete Goals 2 & 3

Discussion:

An attachment was provided that depicted how goals are being integrated through strategic planning.

Action:

Board members will review the document. This item will be brought back to the next CIT Committee meeting, at which time the administration will present a motion for recommended action.

Motion:

No motion was made at this time.

3.2 GRANT: Safe Routes to Schools

Discussion:

This grant for \$5,000 is available to help make the routes that the children travel to school safer. It can be used for education about safety, the placement of crossing guards, building sidewalks, and many more choices.

Action:

This will be forwarded to the Board for direction to apply for the grant.

Motion:

That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to apply for a Safe Routes to School Academy Grant for Youngsville Elementary/Middle School, with the intent of reviewing walking/biking routes to the school and determining ways to make them safer for students.

3.3. GRANT: Read to Ride

Discussion:

This \$10,000 grant is for a summer reading program, funded by the Community Foundation of Warren County, in conjunction with the Warren *Times Observer* and other community partners, intended to encourage children to read through the summer months. Each book read will increase a student's chance of winning a bicycle. This opportunity will be open to students aged 6 through 14.

Action:

This will be forwarded to the Board for direction to apply for the grant.

Motion:

That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to apply to the Community Foundation of Warren County 60th Anniversary Special Grant to fund the Read to Ride program, in partnership with the Warren Times Observer, for students in Warren County.

3.4 Parent Request to Have Tuition Waived

Discussion:

A teacher for the district who lives outside the district has asked that their child be permitted to attend school in the Warren County School District free of tuition. (The state set tuition for secondary students at \$7,787.14 for the 2008-2009 school year.) If this were allowed, it would set a precedent of awarding something of monetary value to a teacher, as the district would not receive state funds or local tax dollars for educating this student.

Action:

It was decided that this would not be moved to the full Board.

3.5 GRANT: Ezra Jack Keats Mini-Grant Program for Public Schools and Public Libraries

Discussion:

This grant for \$500 is awarded to celebrate what Mr. Keats had accomplished in his lifetime.

Action:

This will be forwarded to the Board for direction to apply for the grant.

Motion:

That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to encourage any school library within the Warren County School District to apply for Ezra Jack Keats Mini-Grant funding, to be used for a creative student program along the guidelines set by the funder.

3.6 Welding Update

Discussion:

A handout was provided that depicted the impact that starting the welding class at Jamestown Community College (JCC) would have on the delivery of the planned instruction. Students will be able to take their core subjects at their home schools with a few reasonable accommodations. The majority of the students will be in their regular classes.

Action:

The agreement with JCC will be ready for approval at the Special Board Meeting being held on September 2, 2009.

Motion:

A motion has not yet been established.

4. Informational Items

4.1 Live Scribe

Live Scribe is a pen that digitally copies the notes that one takes and records an audio of the lecturer. A trial program will be initiated to see if this is something that could be useful to students.

4.2 SBU Update

The program will begin on Tuesday, September 1, 2009.

Both Blair Corporation and Whirley Drinkworks have offered scholarships to students whose relatives work for their company.

Board members are encouraged to contact Amanda Hetrick to schedule a visit to the facility.

4.3 Board and Committee Charges

A chart depicting the charges to the administration that the Board and Committees have made was provided. There was no discussion.

4.4 Spanish I-8 Planned Instruction

There is a planned instruction already in place for Spanish I for grade 8. A copy was attached to the agenda for reference.

4.5 H1N1 Information and Plan

A packet of information that pertained to the H1N1 virus was provided as an attachment to the agenda. Thanks were given to Louise Tharp, Nursing Department Head Nurse, for pulling the information together. The provided information is intended to be a set of documents that will be monitored and adapted as new information is obtained.

5. Other

5.1 Beacon Light/SAP

Discussion:

Beacon Light has had an agreement with the Warren County School District which must be renewed each year. This agreement for the 2009-2010 school year was presented. It is proposing an additional contracted position to expand services through the Student Assistance Program (SAP). This new position would be paid from the PA-PACT grant. The contract that would be required of the additional person was also presented. It was stressed that this would be a contracted position, not a new hire.

SAP, a state-required program, is available to all students. Referrals to the program can come from anyone, even the students themselves.

Action:

The contract will be reworded to clarify that it is a one-year contract. The agreement and contract will be forwarded to the Board for approval. It will be listed under “Other” on the agenda.

Motion:

A motion has not yet been established.

5.2 Reporting PSSA Results to the Board

Discussion:

The need to develop a PSSA reporting format that could be used for a long period of time to determine how students are progressing academically was discussed. A committee member proposed such a format. The data in the proposed report would help to determine what areas need improvement and would also determine what educational methods have worked well. The administration was asked if this format could be implemented. The administration’s response was that it could be, that similar data collection and comparison is already being done.

Action:

No action was taken at this time.

6. Closing Activities

6.1 Next Meeting – September 28, 2009, 6:00 PM at the Warren County Career Center

6.2 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM

Respectfully submitted by:

Ms. Lisa Niedzialek, Recording Secretary

Dr. Jack Martin

Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Committee