

**CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

November 23, 2009  
WARREN COUNTY CAREER CENTER

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Arthur Stewart, Acting Chairperson  
Mr. John Grant  
Mr. Thomas Knapp (for Dr. Jack Martin)

Mrs. Amy Stewart  
Ms. Amanda Hetrick  
Mrs. Rosemarie Green  
Mrs. Diane Martin

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Dr. Jack Martin

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

|                      |                 |                   |                     |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Kimberly Angove      | Matt Jones      | Stacy Clark       | Linda Falconer      |
| Jeff Lockett         | Paul Giannini   | Annie Cook        | Kate Brennan        |
| Donna Zariczny       | Brenda Miller   | Kathy Bertolini   | Teresa Borger       |
| Robert Terrill       | Eric Mineweaser | Misty Weber       | Tabitha Artman      |
| Paul Yourchisin      | Jim Evers       | Jessica Shoemaker | Jen Gesing          |
| Mary Ann Paris       | Gary Weber      | Olivia Zapel      | Darlene Albaugh     |
| Jack Werner          | Erik Leamon     | Adrienne Laird    | Melissa McLean      |
| Karen Pascale        | Rhonda Decker   | Matt Madigan      | Debra Bosko         |
| Norbert Kennerknecht | Mary Ann Mead   | Richard Nowacki   | Stephanie Hamm, WTO |
|                      | Phillip Knapp   | Jeana Morrison    | Lisa Niedzialek     |

**1. Opening Activities**

**1.1 Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by Mr. Arthur Stewart.

**1.2 Public Comment**

Brenda Miller, a student at Eisenhower Middle/High School, spoke about the Dual Enrollment Program. Her opinion is that many aspects of the program are unfair.

**2. Old Business**

**2.1 WCCC Building and Construction Program**

**Discussion:**

The Building and Construction Program would like to begin a project whereby the class would construct a modular home in the lower parking lot of the Warren County Career Center that would be sold to the public. It was agreed upon that this would be a good hands-on learning experience for the students. This type of project has been done a number of times in other school districts, and selling the completed homes has not been a

problem as the cost of labor is eliminated, making the selling price below the market price. It will be attempted to find a provider for materials up front and pay for them when the home is sold. If this cannot be done, the sale of the home would finance the building of the next one. Conversation with local businesses that deal in modular homes will take place to ensure that animosity does not develop.

**Action:**

The Committee members favored this proposal, and since it will involve an expenditure, the proposal will be moved to the Finance Committee and will be included as a recurring agenda item for consideration in the 2010-2011 budget.

**Recommendation:**

There was no recommendation at this time.

## 2.2 Alternative Education in WCSD

**Discussion:**

The discussion was regarding the development of a two-tier Alternative Education Program in the district. The administration is proposing a three-year contract with Beacon Light. Jen Gesing of Beacon Light was available to answer questions.

The first tier would be housed within the schools as is presently being done, and would deal mainly with behavioral problems or with students who need a more structured learning environment. Students could be enrolled in the first tier either by expulsion and the recommendation of the Hearing Officer or by parental choice.

The second tier would be for students that have serious infractions, such as weapons or drugs. These students would attend classes at Beacon Light, thereby removing them completely from the rest of the student body. An intense level of counseling would be available to these students. An expulsion would be necessary for placement in this tier.

The cost of the program would be approximately \$166,000 more than what is currently expended for alternative education.

**Action:**

This item will be forwarded to the full Board. The administration will try to get a two-year contract rather than the initial three-year contract that was presented.

**Recommendation:**

That the Board of School Directors directs the administration to develop a contract with Beacon Light to provide a second tier of alternative education for students of the WCSD contingent upon Beacon Light's successful application to the PA Department of Education to be approved as a provider.

## 3. New Business

### 3.1 GRANT: Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh Science Equipment Grant

**Discussion:**

This grant allows for up to \$600 to purchase science equipment for students in grades

K-8. The administration is proposing that the district applies for this grant, with the funds to be used to purchase hip wader boots for use in environment-related projects in the schools.

**Action:**

This will be forwarded to the Board for authorization to submit an application.

**Motion:**

That the Board of School Directors authorizes the administration to apply to the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh Science Equipment Grant to purchase hip wader boots for use in field experiments and environmental studies conducted by district students.

3.2 GRANT: PDE Career and Technical Education Equipment Grant

**Discussion:**

This grant is for funds that would be awarded to the district to benefit the Warren County Career Center for the purpose of purchasing career and technical education equipment necessary to teach skills and/or competencies related to high-priority occupations as identified by the state. The administration is proposing the purchase of a waterborne paint mixing system for use in the Collision Repair Program. Matching funds would be required. The local Occupational Advisory Committee has identified the equipment as a necessary item for Career Center students that are enrolled in the Collision Repair class as businesses will be required to have this type of equipment in place by the year 2012.

**Action:**

This will be forwarded to the Board for authorization to submit an application.

**Motion:**

That the Board of School Directors authorizes the administration to apply to the PDE Career and Technical Education Equipment Grant to purchase a waterborne automotive paint mixing system for use in the Warren County Career Center Collision Repair Program.

4. Informational Items

4.1 Trip to Mexico's Yucatan in 2011

The field trip to the Yucatan that was previously approved by the Board for June 2010 has been cancelled due to lack of participation. A trip for 2011 is now available at a reduced cost. Students will be registering for this trip. If the 2011 trip is not approved by the Board, the students will receive a full refund.

4.2 Board and Committee Charges Update

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

4.3 Middle School Update Report

Dr. Terrill spoke of the status of the implementation of the Middle School Philosophy district-wide and provided a PowerPoint presentation that encompassed all middle

schools. Student portfolio examples were provided for committee and board members to peruse, and criteria were presented as handouts. He turned over the presentation to Amanda Hetrick, who spoke briefly and introduced the middle school principals. Each principal addressed the committee and introduced teachers that spoke about their impressions of the program. All administrators and teachers expressed great enthusiasm for the program, stressing that they appreciate the opportunity to work together as a team and the opportunity to work with students on a very personal basis, addressing issues as they occur rather than becoming aware of problems long after the fact. Teaching at the middle school level is no longer just about the academics, but is now about the whole child.

The Committee expressed its thanks for the informative report and the enthusiastic participation of the principals and teachers.

5. Other – There were no other items.

6. Closing Activities

6.1 Next Meeting – To be determined

6.2 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ms. Lisa Niedzialek, Recording Secretary

Mr. Arthur Stewart, Acting Chairperson

Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Committee