

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

January 25, 2010  
WARREN COUNTY CAREER CENTER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Kimberly Angove, Chairperson  
Mr. Jack Werner  
Dr. Paul Yourchisin

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Donna Zariczny	Arthur Stewart	Brian Collopy	Jen Gesing
Tom Knapp	Dr. Robert Terrill	Jeff Flickner	Debra Bosko
MaryAnn Paris	Dr. Karen Pascale	Marty Mahan	Stephanie Hamm, WTO
John Grant	Dr. Norbert Kennerknecht	Amy Stimmell	Lisa Niedzialek
Jeff Lockett	Delores Berry	Stacey Ludwig	1 other

1. Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mrs. Kimberly Angove.

1.2 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Old Business

2.1 Policy 9535 – Physical Education Substitution

**Discussion:** Information was provided to the committee that indicated that offering Physical Education Substitution was not a viable course offering as it did not meet the state requirements. It was suggested that this course be phased out and no longer made available to ninth grade in the 2010-2011 school year. It was pointed out that there are still many unanswered questions regarding this course that need to be answered before the board can make a final decision. Some of the questions were answered at the meeting while others require further investigation. The board members on the committee would prefer to make this issue part of their goal-setting meetings that will take place soon. This item will, however, be addressed at the next CIT meeting to discuss the possibility of offering Physical Education Substitute as a no-credit course that would still be counted toward graduation requirements.

**Action:** Further discussion will occur at the next CIT meeting.

**Motion:** There is no recommended motion at this time.

2.2 Policy 9742 – Class Rank/Honors Credits – Class of 2011 and Beyond and  
Policy 9743 – Class Ranks/Honors Credits – Class of 2008, 2009, and 2010

**Discussion:** During the current school year only, school district policy allows students in the dual enrollment program within the district to acquire a considerable amount of added weight to their GPA that would not be possible to achieve for a student that is not enrolled in the dual enrollment program. In order to alleviate the possibility of a student that is not in the dual enrollment program losing his class rank of Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Historian, the administration would like to run two class rank calculations and award the title of Co-Valedictorian, Co-Salutatorian, and Co-Historian in the event that a student could lose his title to a dual enrollment student. The titles would not present problems regarding scholarships and financial awards.

**Action:** This will be forwarded to the board for approval.

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors approves the process of running two different rank calculations for the purposes of establishing Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Historian. The first rank calculation would be according to the current Policy 9743. The second calculation would be according to the December 2008 version of Policy 9743.

2.3 School-Based Behavioral Health

**Discussion:** The Community Care Behavioral Health Organization has asked the district if it would like to run a pilot program whereby an outside behavioral health organization would provide services to select students in school and in their homes in order to eliminate some of the funding needed for Therapeutic Support Staff (TSS). It was determined that the Warren Area Elementary Center and Beaty-Warren Middle School have the most need for these services. The schools' staff participated in the interviews to select the agency that would deliver the services, and they selected Beacon Light as the provider. The district would provide a work room for the team in each building and conference room space when needed. All other costs would be the responsibility of Beacon Light. A copy of the proposed agreement was provided.

**Action:** This will be forwarded to the board for approval.

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors approves the Beacon Light Facilities Use Agreement.

3. New Business

3.1 GRANT: Sprint Character Education Grant Program

**Discussion:** This grant awards funds to individual schools for the purchase of materials that facilitate and encourage character education for students. Several schools within the district have indicated interest in submitting an application. There are no matching funds required.

**Action:** This item will be forwarded to the board for approval.

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors authorizes the district administration to apply for Sprint Character Education Grants of up to \$5,000 in funding to deliver character education curriculum and/or training in interested district schools.

### 3.2 GRANT: Teaching American History

**Discussion:** This grant is a federal program designed to raise student achievement by improving teachers' knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of U.S. History, thereby broadening their delivery of instruction. The amount of the award would be up to \$500,000 over a three year period with the possibility of extending the award for two more years. No matching funds are required. The district would need to provide a full-time project coordinator, but the position would be paid from the grant monies.

**Action:** This item will be forwarded to the board for approval.

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors authorizes the administration to prepare an application to the U.S. Department of Education Teaching American History program to provide professional development to district teachers that will strengthen their knowledge of American history and provide tools that will improve instruction and student achievement.

### 3.3 GRANT: Dual Enrollment 2010-2011

**Discussion:** This grant provides funding for students to take college courses and earn both college credit and credit toward graduation from their high school. This grant has previously been used to provide courses from Clarion University of Pennsylvania to district students. The administration intends to submit an application for both Clarion University and St. Bonaventure University.

Dual enrollment courses for Clarion will only be offered via the internet in the 2010-2011 school year, while St. Bonaventure courses will be offered in the same manner as is presently in place.

**Action:** This item will be forwarded to the board for approval.

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors approves the submission of an application to the PA Department of Education Dual Enrollment Grant to provide dual enrollment courses to district students through partnerships with Clarion University of Pennsylvania and St. Bonaventure University.

### 3.4 GRANT: Carnegie Mellon Institute for Talented Elementary and Secondary Students (C-MITES)

**Discussion:** This grant, which would come from the Community Foundation of Warren County, is to fund a summer program for identified gifted students in grades four through six. The Learning Enrichment Center would like to offer a course entitled "Crime Scene Investigations: Warren". The cost of the course would be \$370 for a student that took

the C-MITES EXPLORE test and \$430 for students that did not take the test. The grant would cover \$280 of the cost for up to twelve students, and the parents would be responsible for the balance.

**Action:** This item will be forwarded to the board for approval.

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors approves a grant application to the Community Foundation of Warren County in support of the C-MITES summer program offered through the Learning Support Center.

### 3.5 WCSD Student Mentor

**Discussion:** The Special Education Department, in cooperation with the Secondary Education Department, proposes the hiring of a mentor for students who are at risk for dropping out of school. This would be an addendum to the Beacon Light Student Assistance Program Agreement. It would be funded this year by stimulus monies that were set aside in the budget. Jen Gesing of Beacon Light was present to answer questions.

**Action:** This will be forwarded to the board for approval.

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors approves the addendum to the Beacon Light Student Assistance Contract pending the approval of the solicitor.

## 4. Informational Items

### 4.1 Technology Presentation

In response to a request from the board, Dr. Robert Terrill and Amy Stewart presented a Power Point presentation regarding technology in the school district, answering the questions regarding what the district has, how many of each item, where they are located, how the technology is used, a calculation of student access to technology, and what tools are used to work with the technology. It is crucial that the district develop more storage area within the network to keep up with the technology that is being used now and will be used in the future.

Technology needs will be a top priority in the goal-setting procedure.

### 4.2 Use of Cell Phones

This discussion was regarding the students' use of cell phones in the classroom as a response to teacher-created questions. It gives the teacher an immediate response that will aid in determining what information the students have or have not grasped so that instruction can be repeated if necessary. The technology department will continue to closely monitor research and development of personal computing devices and will allow instructional needs to drive technology utilization and implementation.

### 4.3 Online Textbooks

The availability of online textbooks has been reviewed for Math curriculum for the 2008-2009 school year, Language Arts curriculum for the 2009-2010 school year, and Science curriculum for the 2010-2011 school year. It has been determined that there are no

monetary savings by using online textbooks. Online textbooks could be implemented in a one-to-one environment or in a classroom equipped with electronic devices. The administration will continue to allow curriculum review to drive textbook selection and will continue to monitor and evaluate the availability of online textbooks and devices to support their use.

#### 4.4 Welding in Auto Technology/Auto Collision

The district's insurance company expressed concern about the safety of allowing welding to be done in the Auto Technology and Auto Collision classes. Ventilation is not sufficient, and there is deep concern about allowing inexperienced students to weld on vehicles with gas tanks. Administrators will meet with the representative of the insurance company and their loss prevention specialist and then discuss a course of action.

5. Other – There were no other items.

#### 6. Closing Activities

6.1 Next Meeting – February 22, 2010 at the Warren County Career Center following the Physical Plant and Facilities Committee at 7:00 PM

#### 6.2 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ms. Lisa Niedzialek, Recording Secretary

Mrs. Kimberly Angove, Chairperson

Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Committee