

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

**JANUARY 30, 2012  
WARREN COUNTY CAREER CENTER**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dr. Paul Yourchisin, Chairperson  
Mr. Michael Zamborik  
Mr. Thomas Knapp for Mr. Jack Werner

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

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mr. Jack Werner

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Arthur Stewart  
Mary Anne Paris  
Donna Zariczny  
John Grant  
Nancy McDanel  
Matthew Eernisse (Student Rep.)  
Brandon Hufnagel

James Grosch  
Norbert Kennerknecht  
Michael Kiehl  
James Miller  
Suzanne Turner  
Matt Jones  
Michael Roney

Derrick Moore  
Phil Huebach  
Louise Tharp  
Darlene Albaugh  
Eric Tichy (WTO)  
Josh Cotton (WTO)  
Melissa McLean  
approximately 15 others

**1. Opening Activities**

**1.1 Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Dr. Paul Yourchisin.

**1.2 Public Comment**

Marlene Jewell of Spring Creek, PA spoke about the issue that was to be discussed in item 3.1 Students Outside WCSD Attending YEMS. The students in question are her children.

**2. Old Business**

There was no old business.

### 3. New Business

#### 3.1 Students Outside WCSD Attending YEMS

**Discussion:** With the implementation of new software in the Transportation Department, it was found that there are two students attending Youngsville Elementary/Middle School that live outside of the WCSD attendance area. The family had lived in the West Attendance Area, but they have moved to a home just outside the area. After discussing the issue with district staff, the parents now understand that their children should be attending school in the Corry School District but would like to have them remain at YEMS until the end of this school year so as not to disrupt their education.

This issue raised the possibility of reviewing the District's non-resident attendance policy and the costs associated with students from other districts attending the Warren County School District.

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

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors approves the continued attendance of these two students at Youngsville Elementary/Middle School for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year.

#### 3.2 GRANT: Safe Schools Targeted Grant Program

**Discussion:** This grant is being offered to fund programs that address the issues of school safety and violence. If the funds are awarded, the district would like to use these funds to provide staff development related to positive behavior support and appropriate responses to student behavior. The intention is to train staff in the Central Attendance Area who would in turn train staff in the remaining areas.

**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 develop and submit a Safe Schools Targeted Grant application for a pilot project to train staff in the use of positive behavior supports, de-escalation techniques, and other appropriate responses to student behavior.

#### 3.3 Permission for Warren Area High School Participation in an Upward Bound Grant Submission

**Discussion:** Jamestown Community College (JCC) is submitting an application for an Upward Bound Grant that will cover the 2012-13 through 2016-17 school years. The college has invited Warren Area High School (WAHS) to be a part of the Upward Bound program. The administration informed JCC that the District is interested in making Upward Bound services available to other District schools, but JCC said that

this would be possible only if one of the other schools that they had invited to participate were to withdraw. JCC's stated reason for selecting WAHS is because it is the largest high school in the District.

This program will provide a number of opportunities to students for academic assistance, for advice regarding college and career exploration, and for attending cultural events. A six-week summer tutoring program will be available at Warren Area High School. Student application acceptance for the program will be based on whether the student's family is low-income and/or if the student would potentially be the first generation of the family to attend college. Costs to participate will be covered by the grant.

**Action:** This will be forwarded to the Board for authorization to participate.

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors approves Warren Area High School's participation in an Upward Bound grant submission developed by Jamestown Community College, with the understanding that the remaining three high school facilities in the District be considered should a spot in the program come open at a later date.

#### 3.4 GRANT: United States Tennis Association Middle State Program

**Discussion:** The United States Tennis Association (USTA) is offering a free three-hour workshop which the administration feels would be a beneficial in-service day for the Physical Education Specialists. USTA will be donating equipment: twenty-four (24) rackets, two (2) sets of different types of balls, and two (2) pop-up nets. The cost to participate is a \$35.00 membership fee. One of the Physical Education instructors has volunteered to pay the membership fee.

Additional funding may be provided by USTA's School Tennis Grant competition. The administration would like to apply for the grant for the purpose of buying additional equipment. The funds would be used to provide and after school tennis program at Sugar Grove Elementary School and/or Eisenhower Middle/High School.

**Action:** This will be forwarded to the Board for authorization to submit a grant application.

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors authorizes the administration to apply to the United States Tennis Association for a Middle States Program grant to promote tennis programming in area schools and purchase equipment for an after school tennis program at Sugar Grove Elementary and/or Eisenhower Middle/High School.

#### 3.5 Articulation Agreement with Erie Business Center

**Discussion:** The District has maintained an agreement with the Erie Business Center for the past five years. The agreement allows a student to receive credit at the Center

for certain courses completed in high school. The updated agreement reflects curricular changes within the school district.

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

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors approves the articulation agreement with the Erie Business Center.

#### 4. Informational Items

##### 4.1 Introduction of Student Board Representatives and Assignment of Committees

This item was actually presented immediately after the public comment. Matthew Eernisse, a junior at Eisenhower Middle/High School, will be the Student Board Representative to the CIT Committee for three months. (All Student Board Representatives will change committees at three month intervals.) Matthew was complimented on his essay, which was made available to the Board members and Administration. (All Student Board Representative's essays were made available to this same group of people.)

The other student representatives were to be introduced at their respective committee meetings.

##### 4.2 Special Education Information

Packets intended to help Board members understand definitions and acronyms associated with Special Education were distributed.

##### 4.3 Update on Scheduling

Due to issues with the budget process for the 2012-2013 school year, it may not be possible to have the student schedules completed before the end of the present school year. Budget cuts are going to make drastic changes necessary, and it would not be advantageous to present a schedule to a student and then make last minute changes. It is expected that the student schedules could be completed by the end of June 2012.

##### 4.4 Monthly Grant Report

A summary of the grants for which the District applied for the 2011-2012 school year was presented. Questions that Committee and Board members had regarding some of the grants were addressed.

##### 4.5 Middle School Presentation

Youngsville Middle School has been added to the list of Schools to Watch. Beaty-Warren Middle School had previously been awarded this honor. The Middle School

Concept is working; test scores are rising, attendance rates are rising, and behavioral problems are diminishing. Indications are that all middle school principals throughout the country are excited about how well the Middle School Concept is working. There will be an official release to the newspaper from the state on February 21, 2012. There will be a presentation on social equity at a state conference in March 2012.

5. Other

- 5.1 A Board member wanted to know the status of the goal regarding the development of an Individual Learning Plan for every student in the District. The response was that the first step is to have a conversation with principals, which will take place in February 2012. Updates will be provided at future meetings.
- 5.2 A Committee member asked that it be considered to put the Finance Committee back in the rotation so that they are not always the last meeting of the evening.

6. Closing Activities

- 6.1 Next Meeting – February 27, 2012 at the Warren County Career Center, following the Personnel/Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities Committee
- 6.2 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Public comment made after adjournment: A member of the audience who did not identify herself made the comment that the District needs to get information out to the public, presenting it in terms that could be easily understood. She feels that it is important that the public knows what the Board's responsibilities are and the work that they do.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ms. Lisa Niedzialek, Recording Secretary  
Dr. Paul Yourchisin, Chairperson  
Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Committee