

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

JUNE 25, 2012

WARREN COUNTY CAREER CENTER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Paul Yourchisin, Chairperson
Mr. Michael Zamborik
Mr. Jack Werner

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Arthur Stewart	Jacob Gorton (Student Rep.)	Ruth Nelson
John Grant	Brandon Hufnagel	Louise Tharp
Mary Ann Paris	Norbert Kennerknecht	Stacey Ludwig
Donna Zariczny	Mike Kiehl	Josh Cotton (WTO)
Thomas Knapp	James Miller	Ben Klein (WTO)
Matthew Eernisse (Student Rep.)	Paul Leach	Melissa McLean
		Ruth Huck

1. Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:55 PM by Dr. Paul Yourchisin.

1.2 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Old Business

There was no old business.

3. New Business

3.1 GRANT: WIA/TANF Grant for SAMHS Envirothon Team

Discussion: This \$1000 grant, being offered through the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding, is in support of science, technology, engineering, and math projects. The Sheffield Area Middle/High

School is asking permission to apply for this grant to help fund students' participation in the Envirothon competition during the 2012-13 school year.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors authorizes the administration to submit a grant application to the Venango Training & Development Center for the 2012-13 WIA/TANF grant competition to support the SAMHS team's participation in the Envirothon competition.

3.2 GRANT: WIA/TANF Grant for SAMHS JETS Competition

Discussion: The Sheffield Area Middle/High School is asking permission to apply for a \$1000 grant that is supported by the WIA and TANF funding. They would use the money to fund their JETS team, which will work on engineering projects that will be judged at the local, state, and national levels.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors authorizes the administration to submit an application to the Venango Training and Development Center for a 2012-2013 TANF Youth Program Grant in the amount of \$1000 to support the JETS team at Sheffield Area Middle/High School.

3.3 Elementary Consumables

Discussion: Each year, there are workbooks for math, reading, and handwriting and materials to replenish science kits that must be purchased for students at the elementary level. Students enter answers directly into the workbooks, making it necessary to purchase new ones. A listing of the needed materials and their related purchase requests was presented to the committee. The total dollar amount is expected to be approximately \$76,278. Funds are budgeted annually in the textbook account for this expense. Ann Ryan, assistant principal at Warren Area Elementary Center, was commended for her work in developing a list of actual science kits needs in order to save funds. When new textbooks are being purchased, other options will be researched to possibly avoid the purchase of consumables each year.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the purchase of the listed consumables for the elementary level students for school year 2012-2013.

3.4 Bollinger Enterprises, Inc. Agreement

Discussion: Handouts regarding Community Based Instruction were provided. The Special Education Department of the Warren County School District is proposing that

the district continue the Community Based Instruction (CBI) program, which is provided in conjunction with Bollinger Enterprises, Inc., for the 2012-2013 school year. This program allows students that need intensive instruction to receive hands-on work-based instruction to acquire the work skills that are defined in their Individualized Education Program. The students will each receive approximately 200 hours of work experience. Funding will come from IDEA/Federal funds. A copy of the agreement was presented to the committee.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Bollinger Enterprises, Inc. Agreement and releases 2012-2013 budgeted dollars in support of the Community Based Instruction (CBI) agreement.

3.5 Donation of Band Bus to the WCSD

Discussion: The Warren Band Boosters are requesting approval of a donation of a bus from Warren Bus Lines, Inc. This bus would be used to transport band instruments and equipment and color guard equipment that is used to perform at band events. The bus would be registered to the Warren County School District, but the Warren Band Boosters have agreed to pay for all costs, including the registration fees, fuel, maintenance, inspections, insurance, and any other costs that may arise. The advantage of having the district own the bus rather than the boosters organization owning it is that the insurance rates will be lower. Liability responsibilities are being kept low by only allowing the transport of instruments and equipment in this vehicle; no students will be riding on the bus. Drivers would need to be approved by the district, with all clearances.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors accepts the donation from the Warren Bus Lines for a 1993 International bus on behalf of the Warren Band Boosters.

3.6 2012-2013 Barber National Institute Agreement

Discussion: The agreement was presented to the committee. The Special Education Department proposes that the district continue to work with the Barber National Institute (BNI) to support the autistic support program. They have provided consultation and services for the past six years, allowing the district to provide services to our students that were previously provided directly through BNI. IDEA/Federal funds will be utilized to support these services. One Board member requested more detailed information regarding the costs of this program and also for the Bollinger contract. This will be provided.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Barber National Institute (BNI) program agreement.

3.7 Agreement between the WCSD and the Warren Band Boosters in Reference to the Band Bus

Discussion: In reference to item 3.5 of this agenda, an agreement between the Warren County School District and the Warren High Band Boosters was presented

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the agreement between the WCSD and the Warren Band Boosters in reference to the Band Bus.

4. Informational Items

4.1 Monthly Grant Report

Grant reports for the 2011-2012 and the 2012-2013 school years were presented, indicating the grant applications that have been or will be submitted and their status.

4.2 21st Century Grant Report

A report was presented that reflected the progress of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant program for students in grades three through five. This program provides both academic and enrichment opportunities for economically disadvantaged and academically challenged students. Other students are permitted to attend the program where there is space available. An after-school program began in April 2012, and a summer program began on June 12, 2012. Lunch is available during the summer program. The district is working in conjunction with the YMCA and Family Services of Warren. The program year ends at the end of September, so assessments will be made at that time and will be presented to the Board.

Some of the issues that need to be addressed are:

- Poor attendance on Fridays.
- Poorly attended Parent Involvement nights.
- Teacher/Tutor communications in the after-school program.

Steps being taken to make improvements are:

- Possibly changing to a four-day schedule (Monday through Thursday) with three hours per day.
- Working with Family Services to provide high quality and engaging activities for parents and providing incentives for children whose parents attend.
- Working on an effective method for communication for the fall 2012 program.

4.3 Proposed Changes in the State Assessment Plan

Information regarding changes to the Keystone Exams and PSSA assessments and numerous proposals were listed on the Executive Summary that was presented as an attachment to the agenda and can be seen on the Electronic School Board link on the district's website at www.wcsdpa.org by opening the Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology agenda for June 25, 2012. At this point, the changes are all being proposed at the state level, but have not yet been approved. The administration wanted to inform the Board that Policy 9732 for the Class of 2016 may need to be revised once the state requirements for graduation have been firmly established. Remediation may be required for students that are unsuccessful on Keystone Exams, so it may be necessary to offer semester courses for these students, depending on the finalized state requirements. The administration is already working on the development of these remedial courses.

5. Other

There were no other items.

6. Closing Activities

6.1 Next Meeting – July 30, 2012 at 6:00 PM, to be held at the Warren County Career Center

6.2 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7.25 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

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