

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

JULY 29, 2013

WARREN COUNTY CAREER CENTER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

Mr. Gary Weber
Mrs. Ruth Nelson
Mrs. Amy Stewart

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Arthur Stewart
Marcy Morgan
Donna Zariczny
Tom Knapp
John Grant
Mary Anne Paris

William Clark
Jim Grosch
Norbert Kennerknecht
Mike Kiehl
Sue Turner
Matt Jones

Kelly Martin
Phil Knapp
Ruth Huck
Paul Leach
Sandy Wilks
Melissa McLean
Josh Cotton (WTO)

1. Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:51 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 2013-2014 School Calendar Revision

Discussion: There was no discussion regarding this item. It was addressed at the July 29, 2013 Special Board meeting just prior to this committee meeting.

3.2 Letter of Agreement with Warren State Hospital

Discussion: An agreement was presented that would allow the choirs from Eisenhower Middle/High School to utilize the Interfaith Chapel on the State Hospital Grounds while

construction continues at the school building. The agreement that was presented was between the State Hospital and a faculty member and the school. The agreement needs to be rewritten so that it is between the State Hospital and the District. The administration will check with the District's insurance carrier to make certain that the students will be covered while they are at the chapel.

Action: This will be forwarded to the Board with corrections to the agreement.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the agreement for Eisenhower Middle/High School to use the State Hospital Chapel for concerts during the 2013-2014 school year.

3.3 2013-2014 Dual Enrollment Agreement with St. Bonaventure

Discussion: The standard agreement that the District has had with St. Bonaventure for their dual enrollment program has been updated for the new school year. It was noted that an item on page 5 of the agreement needed to be updated.

Action: This will be forwarded to the Board for approval with corrections to page 5 of the agreement.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the 2013-2014 Dual Enrollment Agreement with St. Bonaventure University.

The committee was informed that the administration is in contact with Pittsburgh University at Bradford and Clarion University to obtain dual enrollment agreements for the 2013-2014 school year. Permission was granted to add these agreements to the August Board meeting agenda if they are received in time.

3.4 Planned Instructions for Keystone Essential Algebra 1, Modules 1 and 2

Discussion: These courses were developed for students that are struggling with the Algebra Keystone Exam. The purpose of the courses is remediation, making it more likely that the students will pass the exams on the next attempt. The classes will be presented in a standard classroom setting with an instructor and a textbook.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the planned instructions for Keystone Essential Algebra 1 Module 1 and Keystone Essential Algebra 1 Module 2 as presented.

3.5 Study Island

Discussion: A handout was provided. This K-12 program, which is used heavily throughout the Intermediate Unit, would be beneficial in offering remediation in all academic areas for Keystone Exams. Students and districts in surrounding areas are using this program successfully. Study Island also has a college and career component and resources for the classroom and for reading comprehension, which may allow the district to migrate out of some of the other programs that are now utilized and into this program, saving the district money in the long run. Funds to pay for the program are available in the approved budget. Training and

implementation of the program district-wide should take no longer than one semester. If the district purchases a three-year program, the third year is free.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the purchase of the three-year program for Study Island as presented, to be implemented in the 2013-2014 school year.

4. Informational Items

4.1 Academic Achievement / Class Rank and Honors Credits

A handout was provided that depicted the results of a survey that the Board members were asked to complete. The administration requested additional input from the Board members in attendance. A committee member stated that many districts are eliminating the titles of Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Historian. A Board member stated that students have worked hard for the academic titles and should be recognized for their efforts, that the titles motivate students to strive for better grades, and academia is the core purpose of the District; if the district does away with these titles, then awards for sports and music should also be eliminated. An administrator shared that some districts award titles based on the level of performance, so there may be more than one student that would receive each title, and that some colleges consider a student's title for awarding scholarships whether they are actually at the very top of their class or not. After further discussion, a Board member noted that there is not a clear mandate for change as a result of the discussion, so the administration should present a revised policy that does not change in regards to the titles of Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Historian. The administration will draft a revised policy and present it at a later date.

5. Other

5.1 Perkins Grant

Discussion: A handout was provided. The amount awarded and how the funds will be used was discussed briefly.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors authorizes the administration to submit a Perkins Secondary Local Plan grant application to support academic, career, and technical programming at the Warren County Career Center in the 2013-14 school year.

5.2 Regarding the Warren County Career Center

A Board member that serves as a Career Center Representative presented a portion of an article that dealt with a company's hosting school guidance counselors so that the counselors would have an idea of what skills students would need to become an employee of the company. He suggested that one of our guidance counselors visit Ellwood National for this purpose. He also stated that the vendor that supplied the five-axis machine to the Warren County Career Center for the Machine Technology class will be visiting the school to make certain that the machine is working well and is a benefit to our district.

5.3 Grant Approvals

A Board member asked why the Board must approve an application for a grant prior to submittal. In response, it was stated that it is written in policy that the Board must approve grant applications, and that grants normally have a sustainability clause. It saves administrative time for those offering the grants to have the Board's approval before submitting an application because some of the grants are not approved due to the requirements of the grant, and if this were to happen on a regular basis, it could hurt the District's chances of being awarded the grants.

5.4 Literature for Online District Learners

The literature that is being sent to online learners' parents was presented. This was to give the Board an idea of what is being done to try to bring these students back to our district.

6. Closing Activities

6.1 Next Meeting – August 26, 2013 at the Warren County Career Center, following the Personnel/Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities Committee meeting

6.2 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ms. Lisa Niedzialek, Recording Secretary

Dr. Paul Yourchisin, Chairperson

Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Committee