

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

NOVEMBER 18, 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  
Mary Anne Paris  
Thomas Knapp  
Marcy Morgan  
Donna Zariczny  
John Grant  
Paul Mangione (Board Member elect)

Dr. William Clark  
James Grosch  
Suzanne Turner  
Michael Kiehl  
Paul Leach  
Matthew Jones

Philip Knapp  
Louise Tharp  
Phil Huebach  
Josh Cotton (WTO)  
Ruth Huck  
Melissa McLean

1. Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 PM by Dr. Paul Yourchisin.

1.2 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Old Business

2.1 Policy 9744 – Class Rank/Honors Credits – Class of 2017 and Beyond

**Discussion:** This policy has been approved on first reading, but more information was gathered from students and teachers, as suggested by a Board member, so that the policy could be as fair as possible to all students. An administrator met with Honors and Advanced Placement students in all of the high schools to collect their input regarding this policy. It should be noted that a number of the students involved in the meetings will not be affected by this policy, but they wanted to serve as advocates for

students following them. A summary of the results of the meetings was presented. Two versions of the policy were presented for consideration.

A Board member vehemently stated his opinion that if a course is titled as an Advanced Placement (AP) course, the student should be required to take the AP exam. Another Board member stated agreement. Almost all of the students that attended the meetings said that if the district paid for the AP exams, they would take it. If the district were to pay for the exams, it would cost approximately \$16,000. The superintendent mentioned that he had been in school districts that paid for the students' AP exams, and success rates and participation were both higher, but when budgets needed to be cut, the district's paying for the exams was one of the first things to be cut.

Another concern that has presented itself in the past is when a student transfers from one school to another in order to achieve a higher class rank. This issue has been remedied with the latest revision of the transfer policy.

**Action:** This will be forwarded to the Board for approval of one of the versions of the policy that were presented.

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors approves on second reading Policy 9744, titled "Class Rank/Honors Credits – Class of 2017 and Beyond" as presented.

### 3. New Business

#### 3.1 Grant: CVS Caremark Community Grant

**Discussion:** This grant is being offered to promote healthy living habits. Presently, two schools are interested in applying for this grant: Sheffield Area Middle/High School would like to work with eighth grade students to help develop lifelong fitness activities and healthy eating habits, and Sugar Grove Elementary School would like to develop the "Get Up and Go" cross-country skiing program. Each application could be awarded up to \$5,000.

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

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to work with interested WCSD teachers to apply for CVS Caremark Community Grant funds of up to \$5,000 for each application for qualified proposals focused on programs that build healthy habits for students.

#### 3.2 GRANT: Support for National Archery in Schools Program

**Discussion:** An instructor in the school district has worked to establish the National Archery in Schools program at some of the schools in the district. This instructor would now like to seek funds through the Community Foundation for Warren County to begin the program at the Allegheny Valley Elementary School. Funds to partially

fund this program have already been received through a grant from the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

**Action:** This will be forwarded to the Board for authorization to submit a request for funds.

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to submit an application to the Community Foundation for Warren County in the amount of \$1,594 to support a National Archery in Schools program at Allegheny Valley Elementary School.

### 3.3 WCSD Cyber School Course Descriptions

**Discussion:** Planned Instructions that contained the course descriptions for the courses that could be offered through the District's cyber program were presented. Almost all of the courses that were presented mirror the district's planned instructions. The administration is seeking approval for these Planned Instructions.

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

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors approves the planned instructions for the Warren County School District Cyber School courses as presented.

### 3.4 Lease Agreement for Additional Space for LEC

**Discussion:** The administration at the Learning Enrichment Center is requesting leasing an additional room of approximately 336 square feet to use as a music lab. The rent would increase by approximately \$74 per month, based on the last general invoice that was received from the state. The administration assured the committee that the additional funds needed for this expansion will be found within the present budget.

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

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors approves the leasing of additional space for the Learning Enrichment Center as presented.

### 3.5 Articulation Agreement between Pittsburgh Technical Institute and WCCC

**Discussion:** The Pittsburgh Technical Institute would like to enter into an agreement with the Career Center to allow specific courses offered at the Career Center to be recognized at the Institute as being completed, making it unnecessary for a student to take the course again. This agreement must be renewed annually. Specific requirements and guidelines are mentioned in the agreement.

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

**Motion:** That the Board of School Directors approves the Articulation Agreement with Pittsburgh Technical Institute as presented.

4. Informational Items

4.1 Monthly Grant Report

A report was provided that depicted the grants for which the district has applied, their status, and how the funds are being used.

5. Other

- 5.1 A committee member that serves as a representative for the Warren County Career Center has spoken to the Director of that facility and was informed that everything is going smoothly. He also gave a name to the superintendent of an individual that owns a business and would be interested in offering an apprenticeship for a student this coming spring.

6. Closing Activities

- 6.1 Next Meeting – Date is to be determined at the December 2013 Board meeting.

6.2 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

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