

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
DECEMBER 16, 2013
WARREN COUNTY CAREER CENTER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. John Werner, Chairperson
Mr. Michael Zamborik
Mr. Paul Mangione

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Arthur Stewart
Mary Anne Paris
Thomas Knapp
Donna Zariczny
Marcy Morgan
Patricia Rosenstein

Dr. William Clark
James Grosch
Dr. Norbert Kennerknecht
Michael Kiehl
Suzanne Turner
Paul Leach

Matthew Jones
Philip Knapp
Melissa McLean
Josh Cotton (WTO)
2 members of the public

1. Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 PM by Mr. John Werner.

1.2 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Old Business

2.1 Additional WCSD Cyber Program Planned Instructions

Discussion: Many of the planned instructions for the district's cyber program have previously been approved; however, there were some planned instructions that had inadvertently been omitted from the first listing. The omitted planned instructions were presented. The administration has talked about making the District's cyber school available to other school districts, but this idea is in the preliminary stage and wouldn't be initiated for quite some time if it was decided that the district would offer this to others. The administration is working on determining if any of the cyber courses would qualify for NCAA approval.

Action: The planned instructions will be forwarded to the Board for approval.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the cyber program planned instructions as presented.

3. New Business

3.1 GRANT: Northern Allegheny Outdoor Women's Association for the Appreciation of the Outdoors

Discussion: This grant for up to \$250 for each project is being made available to teachers and club advisors. Funding is available for five projects related to the outdoors, and there are several teachers that are interested in applying for the funds.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to assist interested teachers in submitting grant applications to the Northern Allegheny Outdoor Women's Association for its Appreciation of the Outdoors grant program.

3.2 GRANT: DEP Environmental Education

Discussion: A grant for up to \$3,000 is available for specific activities relating to the environment. Examples of how the funds can be used: curriculum revisions to courses related to the environment and/or ecology, field trips, professional development, and developing outdoor trails and other resources for the purpose of education. District funding is not required, but the funder is strongly suggesting that matching funds be provided. The person applying for the grant would be responsible for finding the matching funds.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to assist interested teachers in applying for up to \$3,000 in grant funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Environmental Education Grant.

3.3 Professional Development Consultant Agreement

Discussion: This agreement is for professional development that will be conducted during an in-service day that is scheduled on January 28, 2014. Don Smith, a former EMT, volunteer fireman, police officer, medical officer, teacher, and administrator who is now a coordinator for the Center for Schools and Communities, will be presenting information about safety and emergency preparedness for school staff members. Todd Lake, who is responsible for bringing in first responders in Warren County, will also be presenting at the in-service. The training will be available to all departments.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Professional Development Consultant Agreement with Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit/Center for School and Communities to provide a half-day Emergency Preparedness in-service for school staff on January 28, 2014.

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 Future Employment Opportunities

Board Member Michael Zamborik, a Career Center representative, said that there are indications that there is growth in the country's tool industry, and that there will be a need for machinists. He asked the superintendent to circulate information, which he provided, to the guidance counselors throughout the district.

5.2 Applying for Grants

Several people have voiced concerns about applying for grants, feeling that it would be an overwhelming burden to do so. It was determined that the protocol that is already in place for applying for grants needs to be more clearly communicated to staff members. It was suggested that making grant availability part of the monthly newsletter that is distributed by the Board secretary might be a good way to communicate grant opportunities to staff members; protocol for submitting grants could be provided in an editorial in the newsletter. The district's grant writer presently notifies staff of grant opportunities and offers his assistance to anyone that is interested in applying for a grant.

6. Closing Activities

6.1 Next Meeting – January 27, 2014 at 6:00 PM in the large conference room at the Warren County Career Center

6.2 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ms. Lisa Niedzialek, Recording Secretary

Mr. John Werner, Chairperson

Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Committee