

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

JANUARY 27, 2014
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
Dr. William Clark
Buzz Felix, Felix & Gloekler, P.C.

Dr. Norbert Kennerknecht
Jim Grosch
Suzanne Turner
Michael Kiehl
Paul Leach
Matthew Jones
Dr. Darrell Jaskolka

Philip Knapp
Ruth Huck
Melissa McLean
Chris Haslett
Josh Cotton (WTO)
2 members of the public

1. Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by Mr. John Werner.

1.2 Public Comment

There was no public comment at this meeting.

2. Old Business

There was no old business.

3. New Business

3.1 Agreement for Curriculum Mapping Training

Discussion: The administration would like to use the services of Curriculum Designers, Inc. for the June 11, 2014 Professional Development Day to provide training for curriculum mapping and other areas. All teaching staff will be involved. Funds have been budgeted for this event. An agreement was presented.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the agreement between Curriculum Designers, Inc. and the Warren County School District for professional development services.

3.2 GRANT: Thomas R. Brown Athletics Grant

Discussion: This grant is being offered by California Casualty to support public high school athletic programs in need of funding. Eisenhower Middle/High School has drawn up an application for \$3,000 to help defray costs associated with equipment for the football program. An application has also been submitted in support of the Warren Area High School Tennis program.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to submit an application on behalf of interested WCSD sports teams to the Thomas R. Brown Athletics Grant program in support of equipment and other needs.

3.3 GRANT: 1st Grade Career Exploration at Russell Elementary School

Discussion: A first grade teacher at Russell Elementary School would like to apply to the Warren-Forest Hi-Ed School to Work Committee for funding to support a career exploration project in her classroom that would incorporate PA Academic Standards for both Social Studies and Career Education & Work. The students would be reading two Dr. Seuss books that are career oriented, one of which would become their own, as part of the project.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to submit an application to the Warren-Forest Hi-Ed School to Work Committee for funding in support of career exploration activities for first-graders at Russell Elementary School.

3.4 Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab for Youngsville Elementary/Middle School

Discussion: This mobile lab, provided by the PA Friends of Ag Foundation, travels to schools around the state. It can accommodate up to 900 students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 during the week that it would be here, presenting up to six 50 minute science classes each day. The classes meet the state standards for Science & Technology and Environment & Ecology, providing hands-on experiments that represent various aspects of agriculture. The district must enter into an agreement with the providers and must provide water and electric hook-ups for the lab. A copy of the contract was provided. Funding to cover the cost of the lab's coming to our district would be provided by the Friends of Ag Foundation and the Warren County Farm Bureau.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves a contract to host the Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab at Youngsville Elementary/Middle School in June 2014.

3.5 Camp Connections

Discussion: The Barber National Institute would like to use a portion of the Youngsville Elementary/Middle School (YEMS) from June 20 to August 7, 2014 to provide a program for autistic children between the ages of five and eighteen. A copy of an agreement was provided. The Achievement Center has also requested the use of five classrooms at YEMS. A contract will be drawn up and a recommended motion will be established for this request and will be presented at the Board meeting. Appropriate fees for the use of the building will be determined according to established policy and procedure.

Action: These will both be forwarded to the Board for approval under the Consent Agenda. A fee will be established prior to the Board meeting. Another agenda item will be established to address the Achievement Center request.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the contract with the Barber National Institute for use of the facilities listed at the Youngsville Elementary/Middle School for a fee of _____. (A second motion regarding the Achievement Center agreement will be forthcoming.)

3.6 Policy 9355 Student Study Abroad

Discussion: This policy was reviewed by a team of administrators, and changes were recommended. The changes allow the principal to review the courses that the student took while abroad. Grades awarded for these courses would be pass/fail and would not count toward class rank or GPA. A draft of the revision was provided.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves on first reading the proposed changes to Policy 9355, titled “Students Study Abroad,” as presented.

3.7 Policy 9405 Adult Education

Discussion: This policy was reviewed by a team of administrators, and changes were recommended. The recommended changes would remove adult students from Warren County School District programs. The district works with Hi Ed and other resources to provide opportunities to adults. A draft of the revision was provided.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves on first reading the proposed changes to Policy 9405, titled “Adult Education,” as presented.

3.8 Policy 9535 Physical Education Substitution

Discussion: This policy was reviewed by a team of administrators, and changes were recommended. Minor verbiage revisions are being recommended, and the administration is working on developing a procedure for this policy. The procedure will be made available on the next Board agenda, when this policy revision is presented for first reading. A draft of the revision was provided.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves on first reading the proposed changes to Policy 9535, titled “Physical Education Substitution,” as presented.

3.9 Policy Reviews with No Recommended Changes

Discussion: A team of administrators has reviewed a number of policies and is recommending that no changes be made. The policies were provided.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves on first and second reading the review of Policies 9301, 9315, 9325, 9330, 9345, 9510, 9515, 9525, 9530, 9615, 9620, 9625, 9635, and 9640 with no changes to be made.

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.

4.2 Kindergarten Registration

During kindergarten registration, each new kindergarten student will receive a t-shirt as a welcome to school. This event is made possible by a number of contributors, and these contributors are invited to attend the schools on the registration dates to present the t-shirts. A list of benefactors and the funds donated by each over a two year period was presented.

4.3 After School Tutoring Program

Costs and options to fund a continuing after-school tutoring program were presented. The program manager was present and explained the options to the committee. Questions were raised regarding whether other programs that are available would meet the needs without spending District funds, whether more students would be served by providing tutoring during school hours rather than after school, and what the benefits of the program have been. The administration offered to provide a summary report, based on a performance audit, which would provide information related to this issue. It was agreed that the summary be provided at a future committee meeting. It was asked that the report also include samples of the enrichment activities provided to students involved in the tutoring program.

5. Other

5.1 Preliminary Goals

The preliminary Board Goals were presented to the committee. The superintendent stated that there were suggestions for revisions, and he would like to move this forward to the Board on the consent agenda after the revisions have been made. The entry plan, which included the Board Goals, was presented to the teachers at the January 28, 2014 professional day in-service.

5.2 Backpack Program and Contributions

Many businesses have reached out to start backpack programs in all schools. Also, benefactors have wanted to contribute money to the schools. The Superintendent would rather the District not be the custodian of the funds as there is no procedure in place to handle this, so the District has reached out to the Community Foundation to see if they would be willing to handle and distribute these funds rather than having the District develop a separate foundation. The Board will be kept up to date on the progress.

5.3 Medical Program at WCCC

The Director at the Warren County Career Center is working with the Superintendent to establish a committee to work on initiating this program. A meeting for this purpose is scheduled for February 4, 2014. Suggested committee members will be presented to the Board for approval.

6. Closing Activities

6.1 Next Meeting – February 24, 2014 at Warren County Career Center, following the Personnel/Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities Committee meeting

6.2 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ms. Lisa Niedzialek, Recording Secretary

Mr. John Werner, Chairperson

Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Committee