

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

November 17, 2014
WARREN COUNTY CAREER CENTER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Paul Mangione
Mr. Michael Zamborik

Mr. Gary Weber
Ms. Ruth Nelson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. John Werner

Ms. Amy Stewart

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Arthur Stewart
Mr. Tom Knapp
Mr. John Anderson
Ms. Donna Zariczny
Ms. Mary Anne Paris
Dr. William Clark

Ms. Marcy Morgan
Mr. Jim Grosch
Mr. Matt Jones
Mr. Mike Kiehl
Mr. Roger Tubbs
Mr. Rick Gignac

Mr. Jim Evers
Ms. Christine Haslett
Ms. Sue Turner
Ms. Ruth Huck
Ms. Melissa McLean
Kiley Fischer (Times Observer)

1. Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:29 PM by Ms. Donna Zariczny due to the absence of Mr. John Werner, Chairperson.

1.2 Public Comment

2. Old Business - None

3. New Business

3.1 Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab for Eisenhower Elementary School

Discussion:

The Friends of Ag Foundation and the Warren County Farm Bureau will provide sponsorships for Eisenhower Elementary School to host the Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves a contract to host the Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab at Eisenhower Elementary School in March 2015.

3.2 Northwest Tri-County IU5 IDEA Contract - 2014-2015

Discussion:

Mrs. Nelson explained that this contract allows us to receive IDEA money.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Northwest Tri-County IU5 IDEA Contract per the attached document for the 2014-2015 school year.

3.3 GRANT: S. Knox Harper Grant

Discussion:

The Northern Allegheny Conservation Association (NACA) offers S. Knox Harper Grants for environmental educators. Grants have funded previous district projects, such as a classroom aquaculture/hydroponics system, bird books and binoculars, and bat studies.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to work with interested WCSD teachers to submit applications to the S. Knox Harper grant program.

3.4 GRANT: Northern Allegheny Outdoor Women's Association Grant

Discussion:

The Northern Allegheny Outdoor Women's Association is providing grants of up to \$250 to teachers and/or club advisors for projects that provide an understanding and appreciation of the outdoors.

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

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.

3.5 GRANT: Supplemental Equipment Grant

Discussion:

State funds are available for the purchase of equipment for use in the instruction of students enrolled in PDE approved career and technical education programs. Each grant will be awarded based on the Perkins funding formula. This item is a “house cleaning” action as it should have come to the Board previously.

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

Motion: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to assist the staff of the Warren County School District in pursuing funding for equipment via the Supplemental Equipment Grant offered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

3.6 GRANT: PA Department of Environmental Protection Environmental Education Mini-Grant

Discussion:

The PA Department of Environmental Protection is offering an Environmental Education Grant. Activities could include: curriculum integration of PA Academic Standards for Environment and Ecology into existing K-12 curriculum; curriculum revisions to meet Environment and Ecology academic standards; and/or outdoor learning resource projects.

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

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.

4. Informational Items - None

5. Other

- 5.1 Mr. Anderson brought up a topic from a past meeting: classes with less than 10 students and the list of information being taken to the Board as a formality. The fact that staffing needs to be done and schedules created before the budget is approved creates some of the problems, especially in the smaller schools. Discussion involved the necessity to have a mechanism to allow administration the latitude to do what they need to do and offer the classes they need to offer, without needing to get approval from the board after classes are already in place. Mr. Stewart noted that the policy committee can review the policy to determine if changes should be made to it.

Elementary class size numbers - Mr. Mangione requested that grade levels be defined for the number of students in kindergarten and first grade classes. It was noted that there is a procedure in place and if it needs to be firm numbers it would need to be elevated to a policy revision. Mr. Stewart recommended that administration circulate the procedure and if necessary the topic can be discussed in December.

- 5.2 Mr. Zamborik noted that Congressman Glenn Thompson was here and he made some important points. Mr. Zamborik distributed information to the Superintendent to give to WCCC, including an article about robot welders.

6. Closing Activities

- 6.1 Next Meeting – To be determined.

- 6.2 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:46 PM.