

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

January 25, 2016
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. John Werner, Chair
Mr. Joseph Colosimo
Mr. Michael Zamborik

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ms. Donna Zariczny
Mr. Arthur Stewart (joined meeting at 7:41 p.m. when the meeting reconvened)
Mr. Thomas Knapp
Ms. Marcy Morgan
Mr. Paul Mangione (joined meeting via conference call at 7:41 p.m. when the meeting reconvened)
Mr. John Anderson (joined meeting via conference call at 7:41 p.m. when the meeting reconvened)
Dr. William Clark
Ms. Amy Stewart
Mr. Gary Weber
Mr. James Grosch
Dr. Norbert Kennerknecht
Ms. Patricia Hawley
Ms. Rhonda Decker
Mr. Brian Collopy
Mr. Rick Gignac
Ms. Misty Weber
Mr. Mike Kiehl
Mr. Matt Jones
Ms. Sue Turner
Ms. Ruth Huck
Ms. Melissa McLean
Mr. Josh Cotton (Times Observer)
Approximately 13 members of the public

1. Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mr. John Werner at 6:00 p.m.

1.2 Public Comment

- Mitchell Angove, a sophomore at EMHS, addressed the committee to express concerns about weight percentages that are added to AP and Dual Enrollment courses. He feels the current system is flawed and proposes that the district move to an honors recognition system and get away from valedictorian.

- Sheffield Bullying

- Ms. Melissa Miller and Mr. Billy Joe Miller – Would like to see a stricter policy to address bullying. As parents, they have addressed the issue of bullying with personnel at the school several times this year regarding situations that pertain to their child and they don't feel the offender is having consequences. They are concerned that bullying and other issues such as drugs and alcohol on school grounds are getting out of control and impacting a safe environment for children. They feel this is the last course of action before making a formal complaint and they would like it addressed by the time of the next Board Meeting in two weeks.

Board members thanked them for bringing the information to their attention and assured them they would have discussions with administration to gather information and assess the situation.

- Mr. Buzz Felix addressed the committee relative to the 2014-15 Audit, an item on the Finance Committee Agenda. See the Finance Committee minutes for the summary of information.

2. Old Business – None

3. New Business

3.1 Computer Replacement

Discussion: Mr. Weber noted that the Board has previously allocated money for replacement of aging workstations across the district. This is a good opportunity to replace 716 computers and monitors due to special end of quarter pricing. This is approximately one quarter of our computers. As we go forward, the Board would like to see a summary of outdated computers, functioning computers and miscellaneous information to show the transition process as we update the equipment.

Action: Forward motion to the Special Board meeting.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approve the quote from GovConnection for \$419,755 for 716 replacement computers and monitors through the COSTARS state contract pricing program.

3.2 GRANT: AASA-NJPA Helping Kids Program Mini-Grant

Discussion: Mr. Matt Jones noted that the district proposed submitting a request for grant funds to support the newly-developed Kids In Need (KIN) Community Fund. The KIN Community Fund is designed to provide WCSD students with temporary supports and resources, with a long-term goal of identifying and addressing barriers responsible for hardships influencing families in our community. The deadline to submit an application was December 21, 2015; therefore, this is after the fact. The District was selected for the award.

Action: Forward motion to the Board meeting.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to submit an application to the AASA/NJPA Helping Kids Urgent Mini-Grant to support the activities of the Kids In Need (KIN) Community Fund.

3.3 GRANT: Thomas R. Brown Athletics Grant

Discussion: Mr. Matt Jones noted that California Casualty offers a grant program that supports public high school athletics programs in great need of funding. The program primarily funds equipment needs, and may not be used for student awards, construction, support for fundraising groups associated with athletics, or other programs at the school. Warren Area High School has developed and submitted an application for \$3,000 to support supply needs associated with their various sports program. The application was submitted before this committee meeting date due to the grant application deadline.

Action: Forward motion to the Board meeting.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to submit an application on behalf of Warren Area High School to the Thomas R. Brown Athletics Grant program in support of supply needs for various athletic teams.

3.4 GRANT: Walmart Community Grant for PA Business Week at Youngsville High School

Discussion: PA Business Week is an innovative, one-week, in-school program that will be held at Youngsville High School for all students in Grade 11. This program will take place April 11-15, 2016. Business Week provides high school students with guidance and encouragement to succeed in the 21st century. The program will use the employer base in Warren County to act as mentors to YHS students to assist them in developing an understanding of the benefits of the America free enterprise system. The grant application is for \$2,000.

Action: Forward motion to the Board meeting.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors authorizes the administration to submit a Walmart Community Grant application in support of the PA Business Week activities at Youngsville High School for the 2015-16 school year.

3.5 Warren Area Elementary School VOIP Phone Replacement Equipment

Discussion: WAEC is one of two remaining buildings that need to be replaced. This system replaces what currently exists, and adds several features such as bridged conference calling, automated attendants, on demand voice mail, and web based management. Phones will be installed in each office and common area. This quote covers all equipment, installation and configuration as well as a one year maintenance agreement. The hardware quoted from OpenArc has come in lower than COSTARS state contract prices.

Action: Forward motion to the Board meeting.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the quote from OpenArc for \$38,759.50 to cover hardware and three years of maintenance on a phone system replacement for Warren Area Elementary School.

3.6 Warren Area Elementary School VOIP Phone Services

Discussion: This agenda item is in conjunction with Item 3.5. Zito Media Communications submitted a partial year quote for SIP trunks. This service upgrade will allow the district to deploy VOIP phones to each classroom, office, and common areas. Monthly recurring fees will be paid through the communications budget replacing the current phone system charges totaling \$917.50 until June 30, 2016. Services and nonrecurring charges are billable as service is activated.

Action: Forward motion to the Board meeting.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the agreement from Zito Media Communications to install and configure SIP trunk data services for Warren Area Elementary Center totaling \$917.50 until June 30, 2016.

4. Informational Items

4.1 Highly Gifted Presentation

Mrs. Misty Weber presented an outline of the history of the Highly Gifted Pilot (HGP) program and where it stands currently. The HGP program in 2014-2015 consisted of 4th and 5th grade students. In the 2015-2016 school year the 6th grade was added. She noted how the students are assessed in ELA and Mathematics and the growth that they are making. At the present time every student is reading at a post-secondary level. She explained the changes that have been made in the math area with station models to address the instructional needs of the students; currently that are 7 different levels of math being taught (5th grade through Algebra I CP). Students are also demonstrating acceleration with social and emotional development as they are immersed in an educational program that is an appropriate learning environment for them. Students and parents have given feedback as to the benefits of the program. Mrs. Laura Demers, a HGP parent (and also an employee

at WAEC) expressed many ways her son has benefited greatly from the program. The desire is that the Highly Gifted Pilot Program is adopted by the District as the Highly Gifted Program. This item will be discussed at another meeting at a later date.

The Committee recessed at 6:57 p.m. to an executive session, prior to the Special Board meeting. The CIT Committee reconvened at 7:41 p.m. (following the Special Board meeting).

4.2 Special Education Presentation

Ms. Patricia Hawley, Director of Pupil Services reported that she has analyzed the District programs, identified areas of needs, prioritized and planned for enhanced supports, and is reporting her review and recommendations. In her presentation she outlined services that are available in WCSD and are common to other districts, as well as an overview of the programs and student numbers in each attendance area. She defined program needs including Curriculum, Itinerant/Supplemental Autistic and Emotional Support Services, Progress Monitoring Tool, Professional Development, Psychologist Materials, PT/OT Rooms, and Special Education Supervisor. Budget costs will be a topic for the upcoming months. Ms. Hawley noted that the goal is to reallocate some resources; however, a special education supervisor should be an absolute necessity.

4.3 Boardroom Video and Sound

The administration had been tasked by the Board of Directors with gathering cost details to equip the boardroom with floor/wall treatments for acoustical elements to help provide sound quality that would be needed to video Board meetings. The total of all quotes would be approximately \$37,000. More details are needed as to how the room could be utilized outside of the Board context before any decision or recommendation should be made.

5. Other

- 5.1 Cyber Enrollment Numbers - Mrs. Weber distributed a handout that depicted the updated cyber numbers. Throughout the course of the school year they are continuing to escalate.
- 5.2 Ms. Amy Stewart noted we were the only Phase I school district in the IU that had the Comprehensive Plan approved without any corrections.
- 5.3 Mr. Colosimo brought up the topic of recognition (valedictorian and/or honors recognition system) that Mitchell Angove addressed at the beginning of the meeting regarding whether a discussion should begin to address the issue. Discussion included the fact that this topic has been discussed at length previously and administration recognized the trends in the past. Mr. Arthur Stewart noted that he does not support revisiting this issue unless there is a clear idea of what we would want to achieve. The item is tabled for now.

- 5.4 WCCC Report - Mr. Zamborik gave information to the Superintendent for guidance and the Career Center.

- 6. Closing Activities

- 6.1 Next Meeting – Monday, February 29, 2016 following PACCA
- 6.2 Executive Session
- 6.3 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.