

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

December 21, 2020

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Joseph Colosimo, Committee Chairperson
Mrs. Mary Passinger, Committee Member
Mrs. Marcy Morgan, Serving as Committee Member Pro Tem

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mrs. Elizabeth Huffman, Committee Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Jeffrey Labesky
Mr. Kevin Lindvay
Mr. Paul Mangione
Mrs. Marcy Morgan
Mr. Arthur Stewart
Mrs. Donna Zariczny
Mrs. Amy Stewart
Dr. Norbert Kennerknecht
Mr. Gary Weber
Mr. Jim Grosch

Mrs. Lynn Shultz
Mr. Eric Mineweaser
Mrs. Ruth Huck
Mr. Rick Gignac
Mr. Matt Jones
Mr. Mike Kiehl
Mr. Philip Heubach
Mr. Brian Ferry (WTO)
Mr. Glenn Smith
Approx. # of Public Present - 7

1. Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

Committee Chairperson, Mr. Joseph Colosimo, called the meeting to order at 6:25 PM

1.2 Public Comment – None

2. Old Business

2.1 Other – None

3. New Business

3.1 Introductory Spanish Planned Instruction Revision – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

The revision included adding a .5 middle level credit to the planned instruction.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on January 11, 2021

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Introductory Spanish Planned Instruction Revision, as presented.

3.2 Mathematics Planned Instruction Revisions – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

The revisions included adding a middle level credit and course description update to Pre-Algebra 8 and Mathematics 6, adding a middle level credit to Algebra I Honors, a course description update to Mathematics 7 and Advanced Mathematics 7, and adding one credit to Algebra Concepts.

Discussion: Mrs. Marry Passinger had questions regarding the Algebra I Honors Grade 8 planned instruction stating that a student must maintain an 80% average or be dropped out of the class. Mr. Mineweaser stated that students must qualify for the course by taking an advanced placement test. Parents receive a letter in the summer explaining the required 80%. If a student does not carry the 80%, they will be bumped down to Pre-Algebra 8. This helps to ensure that students are taking the correct mathematics course. Students taking Algebra I Honors in Grade 8, typically go through the sequence to get to Calculus during their senior year. This decision usually happens in the first nine weeks to ensure student success. Mrs. Passinger asked what happens if a parent does not approve of the teacher's recommendation. Mr. Mineweaser stated we collaborate with parents when a student qualifies for advanced placement. If the parent does not want their child in advanced placement, that request is honored by the district. However, if a student does not pass the advanced placement test, the district will not place a student in a higher course even at the wish of the parent.

Mr. Mineweaser also explained "teacher recommendation" for the Algebra Concepts course. Students are not permitted to select this course because it is typically used for struggling students in the area of mathematics and usually taught by a special education teacher.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on January 11, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Mathematics Planned Instruction Revisions, as presented.

3.3 STEM Planned Instruction Revisions – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

The revisions included updates to the certification staffing policy guidelines (CSPG). This code tells which teacher certifications are necessary to teach the course. The STEM

courses can include science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. A contact at the Pennsylvania Department of Education looks over the course descriptions and recommends what CSPG to attach.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on January 11, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the STEM Planned Instruction Revisions, as presented.

3.4 Virtual Planned Instruction Revision – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

The revision to this course was a correction to the course number to match eschool.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on January 11, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Virtual Planned Instruction Revision, as presented.

3.5 Business Planned Instruction Revisions – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

The District offered these courses in the past. The district has updated the courses and will be offering them next year.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on January 11, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Business Planned Instruction Revisions, as presented.

3.6 21st Century Community Learning Center Program External Evaluator Renewal Agreement for Cohort 8 2020-2021

This is an annual agreement that must be Board approved. Funding from the 21st Century grant covers the cost and is a requirement of the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on January 11, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the 21st Century Community Learning Center Program External Evaluator Renewal Agreement for Cohort 8 for 2020-2021, as presented.

3.7 Art Planned Instruction Revisions – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

The revisions included the addition of online supplemental resource for teachers entitled the Art of Education Pro Learning to Art 6 & 7. Independent Advanced Art II is a file name correction to match eSchool.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on January 11, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Art Planned Instruction Revisions, as presented.

3.8 PowerSchool UT Application – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

This is a Unified Talent Application, which will bring our Human Resource department, Business Department, our administrators together getting our different applications working as one in PowerSchool. Teachers and other employees can submit online applications. It provides professional development once we start providing observation evaluation. The software will help to track employees better. It will reduce the amount of face-to-face time.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on January 11, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the PowerSchool UT Application, as presented.

3.9 Laptop Purchase – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

Previously, we purchased teacher laptops and docking stations. Once the laptops and docking stations were in use, we found that there were changes needed. The quote is for \$58,000. Once we exchange the docks we have, the amount will reduce to approximately \$15,000.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on January 11, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the PowerSchool UT Application, as presented.

4. Informational Items

4.1 Kindergarten Registration – Kindergarten for the upcoming year will take place in the month of January. A new virtual platform will replace the traditional in person registration that has taken place in the school building in years past. The online registration will be available on a new tab created on the Warren County School District's website titled, "Kindergarten Registration". Parents will be able to view various informational videos

from different departments who would normally present to parents during registration i.e., transportation, nurses, Title I, and Nutrition, etc. Any parent, who is unable to complete the online registration due to a lack of internet service, will be able to schedule an appointment to complete the online registration at Central Office during the last week of January.

4.2 Attendance – Mr. Kevin Lindvay requested that we look into student attendance. Mr. Mineweaser provided two different reports. One is related to attendance from the first day of school until December 11th and includes the first three days of virtual learning for our students. The second report is a snapshot of the first three days and we will watch attendance through the remainder of December and into January. In relation to the first three days of virtual attendance from December 14-16 was 94.92% of our at home students attending. This report does not include any student who was already in a virtual homeroom so the report would be an accurate snapshot of the students who were in buildings that went home due to our temporary school closure. Two grade levels at Youngsville Elementary were over 99%. The lowest we had was 83.8% in one grade level. We are communicating with parents to make sure every student can log in and they have sufficient internet capabilities. If they do not, we are setting up transportation to get them into our internet cafes in each school. Mrs. Amy Stewart added that parents are appreciating the choices they have for the child's education. She does not foresee us being able to take away all these choices as we look at our five-year plan.

4.3 Other

5. Other

5.1 Other –

6. Closing Activities

6.1 Next Meeting – Monday, January 25, 2021 – 6:00 PM

6.2 Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Edie Gardner, Secretary to Director
Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Committee