

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

April 26, 2021

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Joseph Colosimo, Committee Chairperson
Mrs. Mary Passinger, Committee Member
Mrs. Elizabeth Huffman, Committee Member

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

All Present

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
Dr. Patty Hawley

Mr. Eric Mineweaser
Mrs. Lynn Shultz
Mrs. Ruth Huck
Mr. Rick Gignac
Mr. Matt Jones
Mr. Mike Kiehl
Mr. Randy Bussell
Ms. Whitney Youngren
Mr. Brian Ferry (WTO)
Mr. Joshua Vincent
Approx. # of Public Present - 4

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 2020-2021 Beacon Light Custer City Agreement

This agreement provides educational services outside of the home district for students receiving special education services.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the 2020-2021 Beacon Light Custer City Agreement, as presented.

3.2 2021-2022 LearnWell Agreement

This Letter of Agreement is established to provide clear expectations and structure for the operation of educational services provided to a WCSD student while admitted at Millcreek Community Hospital for inpatient behavioral health care/treatment.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the 2021-2022 LearnWell Agreement, as presented.

3.3 2021-2022 Language Instructional Education Program Services IU5 Contract

IU5 will provide ESL services to Warren County School District throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the 2021-2022 Language Instructional Education Program Services IU5 Contract, as presented.

3.4 Letter of Agreement for Title I Services with IU5 – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

This allows IU5 to provide Title I support services to select St Joseph students.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Letter of Agreement for Title I Services with IU5, as presented.

3.5 2021-2022 Northwest Tri-County IU5, WCSD & Warren State Hospital Letter of Cooperation

This Letter of Cooperation is established to provide clear expectations and structure for the operation of the WCSD public special education program in the Warren State Hospital contracting with IU5 for services consistent with its obligations under (Section) §1306 (c)(1). It is the intent of both entities that the WCSD public special education program will operate in a well-coordinated fashion with all relevant WSH services for admitted youth, 18-21 year of age.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the 2021-2022 Northwest Tri-County IU5, WCSD & Warren State Hospital Letter of Cooperation, as presented.

3.6 Step Up to Writing for Grades K-2 Quote and Sole Source Letter from Voyager Sopris – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

This resource provides writing professional development for our K-2 teachers and is paid out of Title II.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Step Up to Writing for Grades K-2 Quote in the amount of \$20,764.70 and Sole Source Letter from Voyager Sopris, as presented.

3.7 Mind Research Institute ST Math Licenses K-5 Quote and Sole Source Letter – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

This is an online math program used by the District for elementary students. It is paid out of Title IV.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Mind Research Institute ST Math Licenses K-5 in the amount of \$15,725.00 per the Quote and Sole Source letter, as presented.

3.8 English Language Arts Planned Instruction Revisions– CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo
Sequencing was added to the planned instructions to show the standards addressed by month.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approve the English Language Arts Planned Instruction Revisions, as presented.

3.9 STEM Academy Planned Instruction – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

These planned instructions will drive the two STEM pathways. The Arts and Communication Pathway will involve the TV Studio, while our Engineering and Industrial Technology Pathway will be within the new STEM Lab at the WCCC.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approve the STEM Academy Planned Instruction, as presented.

3.10 GRANT: Continuity of Education for Career and Technical Centers Grant (CEEG II)

This is a COVID relief grant for the Warren County Career Center for approximately \$143,000. There are 12 allowable use categories providing for a wide-open approach in uses of funding for this grant.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to complete and submit a Continuity of Education Grant (CEEG) II for the Warren County Career Center in the amount of \$143,235 for allowable items and/or purposes as identified by the WCSD administrative team.

3.11 eDynamic Learning Renewal Agreement – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

This is a license renewal for most of our virtual elective courses for the district.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approve the eDynamic Learning Renewal Agreement in the amount of \$30,000.00, as presented.

3.12 Virtual Academy Open Contract for 2021-2022 School Year – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

This contract will give Mrs. Weber the opportunity to work with school districts across the Commonwealth of PA.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approve the Cyber Services Agreement, as presented; authorizes it use through the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year; and, during this time, authorizes the Board President and Secretary to sign the Agreement without additional Board approval for any school district that desires to contract with the District, subject to the restrictions that any revision to the Agreement must be approved by the District's Solicitor prior to signature and any revision to the Agreement that modifies the financial terms in any way must also be re-approved by the Board.

3.13 Accelerate Education Incorporated License Agreement – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

This is a license renewal for our virtual core classes.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approve the Accelerate Education Incorporated License Agreement in the amount of \$95,400.00, as presented.

3.14 Pointful Education Digital Curriculum and Services Quote – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

This is a license renewal for our virtual STEM courses

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approve the Pointful Education Digital Curriculum and Services Quote in the amount of \$2,236.00, as presented.

3.15 SchoolsPLP Contract License and Training Quote for Summer School – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

This is a new vendor and we are contracting with them for summer school for students.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approve the SchoolsPLP Contract License and Training Quote for Summer School in the amount of \$15,037.50, as presented.

3.16 SchoolsPLP Contract License and Training Quote for the 2021-2022 School Year – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

This is a new vendor for our grade 6-8 virtual students and for grades 6-12 outside school district students for the 2021-2022 school year.

Discussion: Mrs. Mary Passinger asked why we were changing to a new vendor for items 3.15 and 3.16. Mr. Mineweaser stated there have been discussions with parents and our teachers in relation to our middle school curriculum concerns. Mrs. Weber has been working with SchoolsPLP and teachers are reviewing the courses provided and are feeling comfortable going this route to address the concerns. They will be providing feedback to administration regarding SchoolsPLP.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approve the SchoolsPLP Contract License and Training Quote for the 2021-2022 School Year in the amount of \$68,705.00, as presented.

3.17 EdGate Statement of Work, Master Agreement and Sole Source Letter – CIT – Mr. Joseph Colosimo

This company will analyze each one of our virtual courses to see where it stands in relation to the scope and sequence skills, content, and standards. If a standard is missing or is not sequential, our teachers will have the opportunity to make changes. This will be paid using ESSR funding.

Discussion: Mrs. Elizabeth Huffman asked if something prompted this. Mr. Mineweaser stated our virtual courses and our regular courses need to be aligned the best we can so students who move back and forth between virtual and brick and mortar are not missing anything within the courses.

Mrs. Huffman asked if there are certification or credentials that we need to hold to set ourselves apart from other virtual academies. Mr. Mineweaser stated there is not anything that really sets us apart but we are comfortable to say that we have our own teachers backing these courses with the support of administration.

The statement of work through EdGate will help the district follow PDE standards.

Mrs. Amy Stewart added that the consensus of folks teaching virtual is that they find more breadth than depth in some of the content provided by vendors. The district needs to customize where we can and the software is designed to do that. We will look at similar products year after year to discard content where we do not need the breadth and align the equity of education across the district.

Mrs. Huffman supports the virtual program and is appreciative of all the hard work that goes into this program. Mr. Joseph Colosimo is appreciative as well. He stated we need all the coursework to be consistent throughout the district.

Mrs. Stewart stated that the Board will be seeing proposals coming forward shortly for the district to dedicate some short term staff with ESSR dollars for one or two years, do the deep dive to get things aligned, and then pivot back out of ESSR so we are not creating a deficit when the funds go away.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 10, 2021.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approve the EdGate Statement of Work in the amount of \$133,138.00 for virtual lessons in the subjects of Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies, as well as the EdGate Master Agreement and Sole Source Letter, as presented.

4. Informational Items

- 4.1 Other** – Mr. Mineweaser received a question asking if we offer high school core courses and our electives in every building, and the answer is no. We have the courses but the numbers in some of our buildings do not support us offering an AP or Honors courses, which is a concern. We want to work to make sure that the courses being offered are equitable across the district. Mr. Colosimo asked the Board and Committee members to begin thinking about how we deliver equitable access to the students who are able and willing to do the work and still keep the integrity of the delivery of instruction. Conversations have taken place, administratively, on identifying our major problems. Our biggest problem and one of our goals is to improve uniformity and integrity of curriculum delivery across all district schools and platforms. The Board will see administration bringing resources to the table to help meet our goal. Mrs. Zariczny would like to see us provide opportunities for students taking online course to have the physical presence of somebody that can support them. Administration is looking to implement Support Centers, which will change study halls to be more support driven. Mr. Arthur Stewart stated that after the COVID crisis is over, we must not forget about labs and the need to be in a room together. Common assessments are part of the curriculum project discussed tonight.

Mrs. Amy Stewart informed the Board that the Co-Op Council of Governments (COG) has just went through a strategic plan and one of the goals established is to get the Community more in tune with the Northern PA Regional College and the Career Center. She was appointed to be on this group and will be reaching out and organizing a group to get the opportunities more widely broadcasted to the community.

5. Other - None

5.1 Other - None

6. Closing Activities

6.1 Next Meeting – Monday, May 24, 2021

6.2 Executive Session

6.3 Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

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