

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 21, 2025

6:00 P.M. FOLLOWING THE PERSONNEL, ATHLETICS & CO-CURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES, BOARD ROOM

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. John Wortman, Committee Chairperson

Mr. Kevin Lindvay, Serving as Committee Member Pro Tem

Mr. Daniel Sullivan, Committee Member

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mrs. Tammi Holden, Committee Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Cody Brown

Mrs. Stephanie Snell

Ms. Monica Keller

Mr. Mike Kiehl

Ms. Savanna Cochran

Mrs. Jennifer Dilks

Mr. Adam VanOrd

Mrs. Patricia Hawley-Mead

Mr. Paul Mangione

Mr. Gary Weber

Mr. Shawn Bedow

Mr. Jim Grosch

Mrs. Taylor Trisket

Mr. David Undercoffer

Mrs. Lynn Shultz

Mrs. Mary Passinger

Mr. Eric Mineweaser

Mrs. Julia Murphy

Mrs. Liz Kent

Mr. Rick Gignac

Mr. Brian Hagberg

Mrs. Kylie Harris

Approximately 8 members of the public were present.

1.0 Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:17 p.m.

1.2 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2.0 Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

2.1 Other – None

3.0 New Business

3.1 Special Education Plan 2025-2028

Discussion: This special education plan is required by the State, and it is to be written every 3 years. This plan will be for 2025 to 2028. Dr. Patricia Hawley-Mead explained there had been no

findings from our last audit they had a nearly perfect audit in Special Ed. Kudos to the entire department.

Due to the potential elimination of IDEA funding with the current state of government and politics the projected child count for next year and the funding has been looked at and expenses have been reduced the best that they can be as staffing is the majority of the funding.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Special Education Plan 2025-2028, as presented.

3.2 2025 Handle With Care Agreement and Purchase

Discussion: Handle With Care's program teaches staff to develop and use their management and relationship skills to reduce tension, create and maintain a calm and safe environment for all. The verbal training prepares school employees to use the power of the relationship to de-escalate the tension level of someone in crisis and avoid physical intervention whenever possible. Handle With Care's physical training school employees to manage critical events when the only appropriate response is the prompt skillful use of physical restraint.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the 2025 Handle With Care Agreement and Purchase, as presented.

3.3 Sensory Room WAHS – Fast Signs

Discussion: The sensory room provides children with an opportunity to explore the world through their senses, and for those with sensory processing disorders, this can be a challenge. Sensory wall decals provide a multisensory experience that helps students calm down, focus, and explore their senses through visual stimulation. The wall decal completes the Warren Area High School sensory room by providing students with a visual graphic full of colors and dimensions found in the Allegheny National Forest.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves Sensory Room WAHS – Fast Signs, as presented.

3.4 Sensory Room – Youngsville Elementary School

Discussion: This purchase is for a Sensory Room for Youngsville Elementary School (YES). This resource will support students with Autism and other disabilities that benefit from sensory support. "Sensory-friendly" often refers to an environment in which kids are given the sensory input they need to self-regulate and decompress; alternatively, it's an environment that lacks overstimulating sensory input. Sensory rooms are focused on providing the best sensory input for specific needs. By using a variety of therapeutic equipment, kids learn to self-regulate their behaviors and ultimately improve their focus. These are typically categorized as "active" or "calming" rooms. Often children will start off in an active space and finish in a calming section to bring the sensory experience full circle. The most important part of using a sensory room is that it is incorporated into the child's everyday routine. Spending time in the room should not be held as reward or punishment, rather as part of the overall "sensory diet."

Mr. John Wortman mentioned that he had the privilege of touring the sensory room at Warren Area Elementary Center this school year and was pleased with all the efforts that have gone into making that successful for our students and is very excited that this will expand into Youngsville and Eisenhower as well.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Sensory Room at Youngsville Elementary School, as presented.

3.5 Sensory Room – Eisenhower Elementary School

Discussion: This purchase is for a Sensory Room for Eisenhower Elementary School (EES). This resource will support students with Autism and other disabilities that benefit from sensory support. “Sensory-friendly” often refers to an environment in which kids are given the sensory input they need to self-regulate and decompress; alternatively, it’s an environment that lacks overstimulating sensory input. Sensory rooms are focused on providing the best sensory input for specific needs. By using a variety of therapeutic equipment, kids learn to self-regulate their behaviors and ultimately improve their focus. These are typically categorized as “active” or “calming” rooms. Often children will start off in an active space and finish in a calming section to bring the sensory experience full circle. The most important part of using a sensory room is that it is incorporated into the child’s everyday routine. Spending time in the room should not be held as reward or punishment, rather as part of the overall “sensory diet.”

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Sensory Room at Eisenhower Elementary School, as presented.

3.6 CBT Nuggets Annual Subscription – Quote 00020459

Discussion: CBT Nuggets Annual Subscription is a new subscription for the IT Department which provides Professional Development, training and tracking, and practice exams for various certs for the IT Department.

Mr. John Wortman stated he appreciates the efforts to find new vendors that provide the same service that also can save the district money as well.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves CBT Nuggets Quote #00020459, as presented.

3.7 OnCourse Subscription Invoice #141652

Discussion: The OnCourse Subscription is an annual renewal. This subscription allows teachers to create and house their lesson planning, write curriculum, and house student data.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the OnCourse Invoice #141652, as presented.

3.8 Warren/Forest Higher Education Council Adult Education Agreement

Discussion: This is an agreement between the WCSD and Warren/Forest Higher Education Council to utilize district facilities to provide adult education courses on site during non-school hours.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Sensory Room at Eisenhower Elementary School, as presented.

3.9 Erie County Community College Articulation Agreement

Discussion: This is an articulation agreement between Erie County Community College, the Warren County School District, and the Warren County Career Center. This agreement awards

credit to WCCC students who enter into ECCC from the following programs: Health and Medical, Information Technology, Welding, Machine Technology, Protective Services, Marketing, Pre-Engineering, and Culinary.

Mr. John Wortman stated briefly that he had the privilege of speaking in State College a few weekends ago, our former Secretary of Education, Pedro Rivera, who is now the President of Thaddeus Stevens College, who we also have articulation agreements with, and he was just ecstatic that we were offering those articulation opportunities to our students, and hopes the district can continue to find more partners throughout Pennsylvania, and possibly out of State, as well to provide our students with the ability to take these credits forward.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Erie County Community College Articulation Agreement, as presented.

3.10 Welders Supply Company Purchase

Discussion: The Fume Extraction Arms will be replacing the damaged, worn-out and outdated fume extraction arms currently in place. These arms are necessary for the removal of toxic fumes generated while welding. The arms will be used predominantly by students in the Welding program at the WCCC (grades 10-12). However, they are also used by the WCSD Buildings and Grounds department for repair work needed.

The fume extraction arms are made by Lincoln welding and will replace the existing Lincoln Welding Fume Extraction arms currently in place and which are part of the total Lincoln Welding extraction system.

Mr. John Wortman suggested that we look at where our pre-engineering CAD students are enrolling or working after graduation and see what kind of CAD programming is being used. Mr. Gary Weber has interviewed the candidate for Mr. Passmore's position, and he explained she is quite excited because she uses a lot of that in industry today, and she has had several different jobs where she's had to introduce different variations of CAD. So, it's a great opportunity and time to review as she will be bringing a lot to the table in terms of technology into the classroom for the students.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Welders Supply Company Purchase, as presented.

3.11 All Lines Technology Purchase Quote #009199

Discussion: The 20 CAD capable computers with monitors will replace the existing, obsolete computers currently in place in Pre-Engineering. The new computer systems will allow the students to better utilize the upgraded CAD (computer-aided Drafting) program and be more capable with any future upgrades.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the All Lines Technology Purchase Quote #009199, as presented.

3.12 Forest Scientific Corp. Purchase Quote #R2501190

Discussion: The CNC plasma cutter will be a new piece of equipment for the Welding Technology program. The cutter will provide students with an opportunity to learn and develop skills in CNC programming. It will also be used to cut specific types of pipe fittings to allow students more real-world experiences in welding.

The CNC plasma cutter will be used by WCCC Welding students (grade 10-12), Adult Education classes through Warren-Forest HI-ED and potentially by the WCSD B & G department.

In addition to providing learning opportunities for students in Welding, the ability to cut steel cleanly can be a potential benefit to other programs.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Forest Scientific Corp. Purchase Quote #R2501190, as presented.

3.13 K-5 Health Planned Instructions

Discussion: The K-5 Health planned instruction has been revised to reflect the transition from a semester-long course to a full-year course.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the K-5 Health Planned Instructions, as presented.

3.14 Advanced Biology Honors Planned Instruction

Discussion: The Advanced Bio Honors has been updated using the new ADA-compliant form.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Advanced Biology Honors Planned Instruction, as presented.

3.15 Aquatic Ecology Planned Instruction

Discussion: The Aquatic Ecology course has been updated using the ADA-compliant form and now includes supplemental materials, revised standards (transitioning from the former “proposed Environmental Science” to the new PA STEELS standards), CSPGs, and assessments.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Aquatic Ecology Planned Instruction, as presented.

3.16 Wildlife Ecology Planned Instruction

Discussion: The Wildlife Ecology course has also been updated using the ADA-compliant form, incorporating supplemental materials, standards (with Life/Environmental STEELS added where appropriate), CSPGs, and assessments.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves Wildlife Ecology Planned Instruction, as presented.

3.17 PA Habitat and Land Ecology Planned Instruction

Discussion: The PA Habitat and Land Ecology course is a result of merging the former PA Habitat and Land Ecology courses due to limited content in the Land Ecology course. The combined course offers a more cohesive curriculum, with updates to the course name, number, resources, standards, and assessments, all presented in the ADA-compliant format.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the PA Habitat and Land Ecology Planned Instruction, as presented.

3.18 Plants and Animals Planned Instruction

Discussion: The Plants and Animals course has been revised to align with the ADA-compliant form and now includes updated standards, CSPGs, and assessments.

Action: Forward the motion to the Board meeting on May 5, 2025.

Motion: That the Board of School Directors approves the Plants and Animals Planned Instruction, as presented.

4.0 Informational Items

4.1 Positive Happenings

This monthly report highlights positive happenings in our schools and showcases learning in action across the district.

4.2 Kindergarten Round Up

Mrs. Lynn Shultz explained that Kindergarten registration is live online as it has been since the beginning of January. Any child or student that needs to be registered for the 25/26 school year is encouraged to get registered as soon as possible. The sooner they register the better prepared we can be for next year's staffing. There are currently 249 students in kindergarten. Kindergarten Round Up is being offered at each school which allows the parents to go to the schools, meet the staff, and other related service providers. There will also be staff onsite to assist parents registering their children if they are unable to do so at home or they can call the registrar's office at Central Office.

4.3 21st Century Update

The district has received final approval for the elementary 21st century grant. Previously, we received tentative approval. We had to re-write the grant, re-write the budget, send it in, and they granted us permission to move forward. What we're doing at this time is advertising for parents that they can register for the summer program that will be held at Beatty Warren Middle School, 2 weeks in June and 2 weeks in July for both elementary and middle level programming. The registration is online on our website, along with additional information as well. Transportation is provided, and the students will receive a free breakfast and a free lunch. We are encouraging parents in the elementary K-5 and middle level, 6-8, to register their children for summer programming. This elementary grant, which is called cohort 12A, will continue for the next 5 years for summer and after school, and we're allowed to service up to 150 students in all 4 attendance areas combined.

4.4 Other

The Special Education plan outlines district programs, services, staffing, and resources designed to meet the diverse needs of students in compliance with the state and federal regulations. The plan also addresses professional development, inclusion efforts, and collaboration/training with families. Its purpose is to ensure that students receive appropriate and effective support, promoting academic progress, and social-emotional growth.

5.0 Other

5.1 Other

Mrs. Lynn Shultz reported that as of last week 94 students are registered for kindergarten across the district.

Mr. John Wortman respectfully requested that after the completion of the district's budget, but prior to the commencement of the 2025-2026 school year, the recommended discipline policies are

reviewed. There are concerns about the amount of instructional time that is being lost within some of the classrooms due to discipline incidents. It is asked that the recommended discipline policies be reviewed to see how they compare both to prior policies of our district and other districts as well.

6.0 Closing Activities

6.1 Next Meeting Date – Monday, May 19, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

6.2 Executive Session

There was no executive session.

6.3 Adjournment at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shellie Olsen, Secretary to Director
Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Committee