



**West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education**  
Board Curriculum Committee Meeting  
Central Office Conference Room  
August 1, 2011 10:00 AM

**Summary Notes**

**BOE Attendance:**

Chair – Richard Kaye  
Rachelle Feldman Hurwitz  
Dana Krug

**Administrative Liaison:**

David Aderhold  
Victoria Kniewel

**Guests:**

Joan Ruddiman

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**DISCUSSION (●) / DECISION (\*)**

**I. (●) Exceptionality Update**

Dr. Joan Ruddiman provided the Curriculum Committee with an update and overview of the Gifted and Talented program. The presentation provided an overview of giftedness and gifted behavior. The committee discussed meeting the needs of gifted learners with programming rather than a specific program. Dr. Ruddiman discussed the identification and characteristics of gifted learners. She also discussed the subtle shifts that are occurring within the GT program that include the following: identification by multiple measures, less test driven, identification that is ongoing throughout K-high school, consideration given to gifted behavior rather than giftedness, avoidance of labels, support of intrinsic needs and attention to programming rather than program.

Dr. Ruddiman will update the district website with Gerri Hutner to reflect the updated G&T program.

**II. (●) Title I Plan**

The NCLB Allocation has been postponed by the NJ Department of Education. As soon as the 2011 – 2012 allocation is released the Curriculum Committee and BOE will be notified. The district has been tentatively notified that we should expect approximately 85% of our 2010 – 2011 allocation. In addition, the committee discussed the possibility of discontinuing the district's affiliation with DVMSAC. The Delaware Valley Minority Student Advisory Council provides training opportunities for staff members throughout the year. The cost of our affiliation is approximately \$15,000. During the past year the number of staff members attending trainings diminished calling us to question the value of our participation.

**III. (●) District Professional Development**

The committee briefly discussed the Administrative Retreat – August 16, 17, 18, 2011, the New Teacher Orientation – August 29, 30, 31, 2011, and the District Opening Professional Development Day - September 1, 2011. The district will hold workshops throughout the day focused on district competencies and the frameworks for instructional practice. There will be additional time needed for presentations by teacher trainers at approximately 240 hours (40 teachers at 6 hours) which will be placed on the August 23 personnel agenda. In addition, Dr. Lorraine Moore, a consultant, will provide an in-service workshop for instructional assistants on September 1, 2011 at a cost of \$400.

#### **IV. (●) Override Process**

Lee McDonald was invited to discuss the Override Process with the Curriculum Committee. He shared that HSS had 940 override requests and HSN had 905 override requests for the 2011 – 2012 school year. Additionally, he shared the course recommendation waiver form that was utilized for the 2011 – 2012 school year. In discussion, the curriculum committee discussed the need to establish set criteria with an appeal process that would be required to override each high school course.

As a next step in the process for investigating the success of students that have overridden a course, Mr. McDonald will begin to track the more than 1800 overrides during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter in an effort to determine to evaluate student's success in course in which they override. Dr. Aderhold will meet with subject area supervisors and begin discussions on the creation of prerequisite criteria for entrance into each class.

#### **V. (\*) Overnight Field Trips**

The below field trips are tentative as of the August 1<sup>st</sup> Curriculum Committee. These dates will be further reviewed to ensure consistency between both high schools:

##### High School North

1. To approve an overnight field trip for High School North Model Congress to Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, from November 17, 2011, to November 20, 2011. The cost of the trip is approximately \$350 per student.
2. To approve an overnight field trip for High School North Junior Statesmen of America to Parsippany, New Jersey, from November 20, 2011, to November 21, 2011. The cost of the trip is approximately \$200 per student.
3. To approve an overnight field trip for High School North Model United Nations to Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, from December 1, 2011, to December 4, 2011. The cost of the trip is approximately \$270 per student.
4. To approve an overnight field trip for High School North Model Congress to Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, from December 1, 2011, to December 4, 2011. The cost of the trip is approximately \$300 per student.
5. To approve an overnight field trip for High School North Model United Nations to the Ivy League Conference, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from January 26, 2012, to January 29, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$300 per student.
6. To approve an overnight field trip for High School North Junior Statesmen of America to Washington, D.C., from February 11, 2012, to February 13, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$350 per student.
7. To approve an overnight field trip for High School North Model United Nations to Boston, Massachusetts, from February 23, 2012, to February 26, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$350 per student.

8. To approve an overnight field trip for High School North Senior Class to Disney World, Orlando, Florida, from March 8, 2012, to March 12, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$1,000 per student.
9. To approve an overnight field trip for High School North Washington Seminar to Washington, D.C., from March 20, 2012, to March 24, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$750 per student.
10. To approve an overnight field trip for High School North Model Congress to the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from March 29, 2012, to April 1, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$300 per student.
11. To approve an overnight field trip for High School North Model Congress to Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, from April 12, 2012, to April 14, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$300 per student.

High School South Proposed (Dates of trip to be updated prior to 8/23 agenda)

1. To approve an overnight field trip for High School South Model United Nations to Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, from November 10, 2010, to November 13, 2011. The cost of the trip is approximately \$325 per student.
2. To approve an overnight field trip for High School South Model United Nations to Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, from December 1, 2010, to December 4, 2011. The cost of the trip is approximately \$325 per student.
4. To approve an overnight field trip for High School South Model United Nations to the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from January 26, 2011, to January 29, 2011. The cost of the trip is approximately \$325 per student.
7. To approve an overnight field trip for High School South Model United Nations to Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., from February 16, 2011, to February 19, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$325 per student.
8. To approve an overnight field trip for High School South Model United Nations to Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, from March 2, 2012, to March 5, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$325 per student.
10. To approve an overnight field trip for High School South Washington Seminar to Washington, D.C., from March 20, 2012, to March 24, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$750 per student.
11. To approve an overnight field trip for High School South Senior Class Trip to Disney World, Orlando, Florida, from March 16, 2011, to March 20, 2011. The cost of the trip is approximately \$1,075 per student.
12. To approve an overnight field trip for High School South Model United Nations to George Washington University, Washington, D.C., from March 23, 2011, to March 27, 2011. The cost of the trip is approximately \$325 per student.

Community Middle School

1. To approve an overnight field trip for Community Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> grade Outdoor Education to Camp Canadensis, Canadensis, PA, from June 6, 2012 – June 8, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$225 per student.

Next Meeting Date: Monday, September 12, 2011, 10:00am.

Future Topics

Amend the FY10 NCLB Application

Special Services Program Review Presentation

Program Review Updates

Field Trips