



West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education
Board Curriculum Committee Meeting
Central Office Conference Room
September 12, 2011 10:00 AM

Summary Notes

BOE Attendance:

Chair – Richard Kaye
Rachelle Feldman Hurwitz
Dana Krug

Administrative Liaison:

David Aderhold
Victoria Kniewel

Guests:

Lee McDonald

DISCUSSION (●) / DECISION (*)

I. (●) Curriculum Committee Schedule

The Curriculum Committee will continue to meet on the first Monday of the month until the new Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction begins. The meeting schedule was established for October 3rd, November 7th and December 5th at 10am.

II. (●) Professional Development Day Overview

Dr. Kniewel and Dr. Aderhold reviewed the opening professional development day activities with the committee. The day was received positively from administrators and teaching staff alike. Presentations to staff were done in a collaborative manner with both an administrator and a teaching co-presenter. Administrators led the groups of staff members they are responsible for evaluating as a way of strengthening a continuing professional relationship. The district focus was and will continue to be the relationship of the district vision, 21st century skills, instruction and assessment and the framework to evaluate instructional practices.

III. (●) ACTFL Melba D. Woodruff Award for Exemplary Elementary Foreign Language Programs

The committee recognized Carol Meulener, Rosanne Zeppieri and the World Language Department for their recent award from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language for Exemplary Elementary Foreign Language Programs.

IV. (●) Program Review Updates

Dr. Aderhold informed the committee that the Social Studies and Special Education Program reviews will reconvene with the internal district teams to conclude their review of their respective programs. Once the internal teams have concluded their review they will then work with the external consultants responsible for the reviews to discuss findings and build a collaborative action plan.

V. (●) Title I

The Title I plan will be submitted by September 23rd for the review of the County Office. During the 2011 – 2012 school year Town Center, Wicoff, Millstone River, Community Middle School and High School North have been identified as Title I buildings.

VI. (●) NAEP

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what America's students know and can do in various subject areas. Assessments are conducted periodically in mathematics, reading, science, writing, the arts, civics, economics, geography, and U.S. history.

Since NAEP assessments are administered uniformly using the same sets of test booklets across the nation, NAEP results serve as a common metric for all states and selected urban districts. The assessment stays essentially the same from year to year, with only carefully documented changes. This permits NAEP to provide a clear picture of student academic progress over time.

High School North and Village Elementary School have been selected to administer the NAEP during the 2011 – 2012 school year.

VII. (●) Renzulli Learning for 1st Grade

The Curriculum Committee discussed and approved the implementation of Renzulli Learning in 1st grade throughout the district.

VIII. (●) Millstone River Elementary School and Financial Literacy Program

The committee discussed a request for the implementation of a pilot program at Millstone River Elementary School in financial literacy. The merits of the recommended program will be further investigated prior to the approval and implementation of the program.

IX. (●) AYP Results

The committee held a preliminary discussion of the results of district test scores from the 2010 – 2011 school year. The committee will further discuss test results at the October meeting. In addition, a presentation on district test scores will occur at a future Board of Education meeting for the full Board of Education.

X. (*) Grants

The committee recommends the submission of the entitlement grant of \$354,425 for the “No Child Left Behind Act” Consolidated formula sub-grant from the State of New Jersey (formerly the IASA), for the Fiscal Year 2012, as follows:

Title I Part A Total	\$ 186,534
Title II Part A	\$ 117,141
Title III	\$ 50,750

XI. (*) Travel

The committee recommends board approval for the request for the two program directors of the STARTALK Hindi/Urdu Immersion Camp to attend the 2011 Post-Program Network for Program Excellence meeting in Atlanta Georgia in October 2011. As the district is the manager of the grant funds, the Board of Education must approve the presentation of STARTALK faculty at the conference.

XII. (*) Overnight Field Trips

The Curriculum Committee completed a preliminary review of several overnight field trips that will occur during the 2011 – 2012 school. The committee requested clarification regarding several trips. The questions brought forward will be discussed at the October Curriculum Committee meeting and subsequently moved forward on the October Board of Education agenda.

High School South

1. Model United Nations to Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, from November 10, 2011, to November 13, 2011. The cost of the trip is approximately \$325 per student.
2. Model United Nations to the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from January 26, 2012, to January 29, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$325 per student.
3. 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.
4. Model United Nations to Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, from March 7, 2012, to March 10, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$325 per student.
5. Washington Seminar to Washington, D.C., from March 13, 2012, to March 17, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$750 per student.

Middle Schools

1. Grover Middle School and Community Middle School German Students to Washington, D.C. from April 27, 2012, to April 28, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$275 per student.
2. Grover Middle School students to Music Festival Showcase, Williamsburg, Virginia, from May 4, 2012, to May 6, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$375 per student.
3. Grover Middle School Grade 6 Outdoor Education to Timber Tops Camp, Greeley, PA, from June 4, 2012, to June 8, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$250 per student.
4. Community Middle School Grade 6 Outdoor Education to Camp Canadensis, Canadensis, PA, from June 6, 2012, to June 8, 2012. The cost of the trip is approximately \$225 per student.

XIII. (●) Naviance

Mr. McDonald, the Director of Guidance, was invited to discuss the renewal of the Naviance software license. Mr. McDonald presented information that reviewed the strength of three different vendors. The Curriculum Committee was in full support of recommending Naviance to continue as the district's software provider for career and college planning.

Next Meeting Date: October 3, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Future Topics:

Program Review Updates (Social Studies, Language Arts, Special Education)