



**West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education**  
Board Curriculum Committee Meeting  
Central Office Conference Room  
January 7, 2013 11:00 AM

**SUMMARY NOTES**

**BOE Attendance:**

Chair – Richard Kaye  
Rachelle Feldman Hurwitz  
Dana Krug  
Michelle Kaish - Guest

**Administrative Liaison:**

Martin Smith  
Victoria Kniewel

**Guests:**

Mark Wise  
Deirdre Bova  
Denise Mengani

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**DISCUSSION (●) / DECISION (\*)**

**I. (●) 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Exit Assessment – Mark Wise**

Mark Wise presented the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Exit Assessment results from June 2012. These results show that students are strongest in use of media and content/organization and weakest in adapting their message to the audience and creating a solution that meets the specified criteria. Two new tasks have been developed for this year so that students will have a choice of 3 tasks with which to work. The results have been shared with all administrators. The supervisors are working with their staff to align common assessments with the 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies as measured in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade exit assessment. The Curriculum Committee recommends developing a specific plan of how we are going to use this data to move forward that incorporates a cross-disciplinary focus to see how each content area contributes to students developing competencies.

**II. (●) Language Arts Program Review External Report**

The Committee reviewed the findings of the External Report Language Arts Program Review in anticipation of the January 15<sup>th</sup> full Board presentation by Bethany Rice of PCG. The Internal team is drafting their final report and will present this along with the Executive Summary and Final Recommendations in February.

**III. (●) HS Mid-term Exam Schedule**

The Committee discussed the possibility of changing the high school mid-term exam schedule next year so that instead of one single exam given at the end of January, students would complete a series of tasks embedded throughout the first semester. This would allow for a greater range of tasks that would align with the 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies. Also, students would not have a single exam given on one day to demonstrate their learning.

**IV. (●) Rutgers doctoral student proposed research study**

The Superintendent supports the proposed research project by a Rutgers University doctoral student to investigate students' relationship to authority and the impact of that relationship on students in sixth grade.

**V. (\*) SIOP Training for MS & HS**

To recommend approval for Marina Moran to provide 3 one-day Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) training sessions for ELL teachers at a total cost of \$4,500 plus expenses. Cost to be paid with Title III funds.

The Curriculum Committee supports hiring of the consultant.

**VI. (\*) Professional Development - Consultants**

- To recommend approval for Susan Rovello to provide a one-half day training session for district professional development day on February 14, 2013 at a cost of \$500.
- To recommend approval for Steven Maher to provide 2 training sessions for district professional development day on February 14, 2013 at a cost of \$200.

The February 14 In-Service Day will offer a variety of sessions in three time slots during the day. Most of the sessions are being presented by teachers and administrators from the district. The two outside consultants will present sessions on communicating effectively with parents and the use of social bookmarking sites to engage students. The Curriculum Committee supports hiring of the consultants.

**VII. (\*) Community Education Spring/Summer 2013 Classes and Trips**

To recommend approval of the Community Education Spring & Summer 2013 course listing.

The Curriculum Committee recommends approval of the courses.

**VIII. (\*) Overnight Field Trips**

To recommend approval of the following overnight field trips:

High School North

- a) Model Congress to University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from February 7, 2013, through February 10, 2013. The cost of the trip is approximately \$300 per student.
- b) Girls Lacrosse to Baltimore, Maryland, from March 15, 2013 through March 17, 2013. The cost of the trip is approximately \$250 per student.

#### High School South

- c) Junior Statesmen of America to Washington, DC, from February 22, 2013, through February 24, 2013. The cost of the trip is approximately \$265 per student.
- d) Junior Statesmen of America to Cherry Hill, New Jersey, from April 20, 2013, through April 21, 2013. The cost of the trip is approximately \$105 per student.

#### High School and Middle School

- e) To recommend approval of an overnight field trip for middle school and high school Future Problem Solvers to Bloomington, Indiana, from June 6, 2013, to June 9, 2013. The cost of the trip is approximately \$1,000 per student.
- f) To recommend approval an overnight field trip for middle school and high school National History Day students to College Park, Maryland, from June 9, 2013, to June 13, 2013. The cost of the trip is approximately \$700 per student.

The Curriculum Committee recommends approval of the trips.

**The Committee moved into closed session to discuss confidential matters.**

Next Meeting Date: Monday, February 4, 2013

#### Future Topics

Program Review Updates

Summer Assignments