



West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education
Board Curriculum Committee Meeting
Superintendent's Office Conference Room
January 23, 2014 6:30 PM

SUMMARY NOTES

BOE Attendance:

Chair – Richard Kaye
Rachelle Feldman Hurwitz
Scott Powell

Administrative Liaison:

Martin Smith

Guests:

DISCUSSION (●) / DECISION (*)

I. (●) PARCC

PARCC is the new statewide assessment system that will replace NJASK & HSPA in the 2014-15 school year. All students 3 – 11 will be assessed in Language Arts & Mathematics. These assessments are aligned with the Common Core Standards that were adopted by NJ three years ago. The district has worked since their adoption to realign our curriculum and provide professional development for staff. All of the assessments will take place on a computer. The district has been and will continue to examine the technological infrastructure required to support the future of instruction and assessment in the district. With the move to the PARCC assessments, there will be no high school graduation requirement assessments for three years, this impacts current 8th, 9th and 10th graders. It is anticipated that new high school graduation requirements would go into effect for current 7th graders. Five district schools (both high schools, both middle schools & Village School Grade 5) will participate in a field test of the PARCC assessment this spring. Two classes in each building have been randomly assigned to participate in the assessment.

II. (●) Professional Development – January 31, 2014

www.wwpjan2014.eventbrite.com

The Curriculum Committee reviewed the offerings for staff professional development for the Jan 31 district PD day. There are over 100 workshops from which staff can choose.

III. (●) Research Project by Dr. Colette Gosselin of TCNJ

Dr. Gosselin will conduct an investigation into the effectiveness of TCNJ's teacher preparation program for science education. She will work with a new teacher to study the impact of training on instructional decision making and student performance.

IV. (*) Professional Development - Consultants

To recommend approval for the following consultants to provide training during the District Professional Development Day on January 31, 2014:

- Steve Mills from the Philadelphia Museum of Art to provide a workshop for teachers entitled "A picture teaches 1,000 words" An introduction to ARTstor" at a cost of \$450.
- Karen Kelley, consultant, to provide a workshop for Instructional Assistants entitled "Finding the Right Match: Classroom Strategies that Work" at a cost of \$400.
- Mark Percy from Rider University to provide a workshop for teachers entitled "Just War Doctrine" at no cost to the district.

- American Red Cross to provide CPR training for High School South Physical Education Teachers at a cost not to exceed \$500.

The Curriculum Committee recommends approval for the consultants.

V. (*) Overnight Field Trips

To recommend approval for the following overnight field trips:

- Community Middle School Band to Washington, DC, from June 5, 2014, through June 7, 2014, at a cost of approximately \$415 per student.
- High School South Band to Madrid, Granada, and Toledo, Spain, from February 16, 2015, through February 22, 2015, at a cost of approximately \$2,500 per student.
- High School South Orchestra to Italy from November 22 through November 29, 2014, t a cost of approximately \$2,500 per student.

The Curriculum Committee recommends approval of the field trips. The Curriculum Committee recommends that the Board investigate and review the field trip policy in order to develop consistent experiences across schools and programs. Also, at the last CC meeting, it was decided that parents will not be permitted to chaperone overseas field trips. The Curriculum Committee has approved the high school overseas trips with the understanding that no freshman will be allowed to go on these trips.

VI. (*) Non-public Technology

To recommend approval for expenditures of the FY 2014 NJ Nonpublic School Technology Initiative as follows:

French American School of Princeton \$175.00
Montessori Corner at Princeton Meadows \$248.06

The Curriculum Committee recommends approval of the expenditures.

VII. (*) Consultants

To recommend approval of Razia Hassan as a consultant for the StarTalk Hindi/Urdu program at a cost of \$500 [paid through FY14 StarTalk Grant].

The Curriculum Committee recommends approval of the consultant.

VIII. (●) Future Meeting Dates

The Curriculum Committee discussed future meeting dates. These will be published on the Board calendar.

The Curriculum Committee recommends that the full Board convene several retreats for the coming school year.

Next Meeting Date: February 11, 2014

Future Topics

Program Review Updates

Summer Assignments