



West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education
Board Curriculum Committee Meeting
Central Office Conference Room
August 19, 2014 5:30 PM

SUMMARY NOTES

BOE Attendance:

Chair – Richard Kaye
Rachelle Feldman Hurwitz -
absent
Scott Powell

Administrative Liaison:

Martin Smith
David Aderhold

Guests:

Rick Cave

DISCUSSION (●) / DECISION (*)

I. (●) BYOD Pilot – HS Social Studies

The Curriculum Committee discussed a small-scale pilot at HSN and HSS in American Studies II classes next school year. The pilot would begin in the second marking period. This would allow for training of the teachers involved during the first marking period. We would specify the types of devices allowable and for any student that does not have access to an adequate device, we would provide a Chromebook. The pilot would allow us to gain a sense of what issues a larger-scale BYOD program would involve.

II. (●) District Professional Development

- Administrative Retreat – August 12, 13, 14, 15, 2014
- New Teacher Orientation – August 26, 27, 28, 2014
- Convocation - September 2, 2014

A successful Administrative Retreat was held the week of Aug 12 that included a focus on the observation process, authentic feedback, Common Core, PARCC, and assessments. Bari Erlichson, assistant commissioner of the Department of Education, was a guest speaker on Thursday and she discussed the PARCC assessment. New Teacher will take place the week before school starts with a focus on the observation and evaluation process as well as basic processes within the district. The K-5 teachers will spend one day on the district's Balanced Literacy Workshop model as well as the Envision Math program. The opening Convocation will be delivered on video so as to allow all teachers to be in their buildings on the day before school starts.

III. (●) HSPA & AP Results Review

This is the last year that HSPA results will be available as we move to the new PARCC assessment system. Any junior who did not pass last school year will have 2 opportunities to pass the HSPA this school year. There will not be a high school graduation required assessment for at least the next three school years. The district results again were very strong, surpassing the State averages as well as on par with equivalent demographic districts throughout the State. The Committee discussed the achievement gaps that exist and the programs that the district has implemented to close these gaps. The level of parental engagement and the rigor of the curriculum were reviewed.

Ninety-four percent of students at both high schools achieved a score of 3 or higher on the May administration of AP exams. HSN administered a total of 1133 exams and HSS administered a total

of 1071 exams. Despite exam redesigns in both Chemistry and Spanish Language this past school year, the results for the district were strong and far exceeded National averages.

IV. (●) Eighth Grade Assessment Data

The results from last year's 8th Grade exit assessment showed an increase in students' scores for effective communicator, problem solving and collaborative team member. This follows the previous year that had seen a decrease. The district has established a professional development goal for the identification of consistent criteria across grade levels to measure the 21st Century Competencies. As part of the teacher evaluation SGO process, all teachers are measuring at least one of these competencies.

V. (●) 2013-14 Evaluation Data Review

A review of the data submitted to the State on the first year implementation of the new teacher evaluation system showed that for teachers who received a Summative Rating (Teacher Practice & SGOs (does not include mSGP teachers); 0% were rated Ineffective, .6% were rated Partially Effective, 27% were rated Effective, and 72.4% were rated Highly Effective.

VI. (*) Professional Development

- To recommend approval for the Reading and Writing Project Network training through Columbia University at a cost of approximately \$87,500. [The 2014-2015 contract covers consultant days and travel expenses, which will be paid through 2015 No Child Left Behind Title II grant funds.]
- To recommend approval for the Reading and Writing Project Network to provide 2014-2015 professional development services for administrators, according to state-mandated professional growth plans, at a cost not to exceed \$9,400. [Paid through 2015 No Child Left Behind Title II grant funds.]
- To recommend approval for the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project to supply 90 tickets for the attendance by teachers and administrators to professional development workshops at Teachers College at Columbia University during the 2014-2015 school year, at a cost of \$8,850. [Paid through 2015 No Child Left Behind Title II grant funds.]
- To recommend Teachers College Reading and Writing Project to provide professional development and technical support for 6 lead teachers during the 2014-2015 school year, at a cost of \$750 per teacher and \$4,500 total. [Paid through 2015 No Child Left Behind Title II grant funds.]
- To recommend approval for travel for teachers and administrators to attend the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project professional development workshops at Teachers College at Columbia University during the 2014-2015 school year, at a cost of approximately \$50 per trip. [Paid through 2015 No Child Left Behind Title II grant funds.]

The Curriculum Committee recommends approval of these professional development opportunities.

VII. (*) Curriculum Revisions

To recommend approval of the following new and revised curricula:

1. Advanced Algebra II – Aligned to Core Curriculum Content Standards
2. Advanced Algebra II Honors – Aligned to Core Curriculum Content Standards
3. Algebra II - Aligned to Core Curriculum Content Standards
4. AP French Language - Revised to reflect AP redesign

5. Chinese 2 – Revised to articulate better with Middle School program
6. Information Literacy and Technology Grade 3 – New Course
7. Information Literacy and Technology Grade 4 – second year revisions
8. Information Literacy and Technology Grade 5 – New Course
9. French 4 Honors – Revised to articulate with French III Honors
10. Language Arts III – New Course – replaced semester courses
11. Language Arts III Honors – New Course – replaced semester courses
12. Mathematics Grade 6 – Aligned to Core Curriculum Content Standards
13. Music Grade K – New Course
14. Music Grade 1 – Revised
15. Music Grade 2 - Revised
16. Preschool – Revised to align to NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards
17. Social Studies – Global Classroom Grade 5 – New Course
18. World History Honors – New Course

The Curriculum Committee recommends approval of the curricula.

VIII. (*) Grants

To recommend acceptance of the entitlement grant of \$576,785 for the “No Child Left Behind Act” Consolidated formula sub-grant from the State of New Jersey (formerly the IASA), for the Fiscal Year 2014.

Title I Part A	\$255,214
Title II Part A	\$108,050
Title III	\$ 51,147
Title III Immigrant	\$162,374

The Curriculum Committee recommends acceptance of the grant.

IX. (*) Nonpublic Technology Aid

To accept Nonpublic Technology Aid from the State of New Jersey, Department of Education, Division of Finance, for use in compliance with the New Jersey Nonpublic School Technology Initiative Program, as follows:

American Boychoir School, The	\$ 520.00
Childrens House of the Windsors	\$ 820.00
French American School of Princeton	\$1,860.00
Montessori Corner at Princeton Meadows	\$ 620.00
Montessori Country Day	\$ 580.00
The Wilberforce School	\$2,100.00

To approve the third year of a three-year agreement between Middlesex County Regional Education Service Commission (MCRESC) and West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District for the period August 21, 2012, through June 30, 2015, to administer the Non-Public School Technology Aid in accordance with guidelines established by the New Jersey Nonpublic School Technology Initiative Program.

To approve expenditures for the FY 2015 NJ Nonpublic School Technology Initiative as follows:

Children’s House of the Windsors	\$845.90
French-American School	\$1,198.51

The Curriculum Committee recommends acceptance of the aid, approval of the agreement and expenditures.

X. (*) Community Education Programs

To recommend approval of the listing of Community Education Fall 2014 Adult, Youth, and Afterschool Enrichment programs
The Curriculum Committee recommends approval of the courses.

Next Meeting Date: September 9, 2014 – 5:30 pm

Future Topics

Professional Development

Field Trip Approvals

Special Services Program Review Update