

West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education

Board Curriculum Committee Meeting Superintendent's Office Conference Room January 15, 2015 6:30 PM

SUMMARY NOTES

BOE Attendance:

Dana Krug, chair Isaac Cheng Scott Powell **Administrative Liaison:**

Guests:

Martin Smith
David Aderhold

DISCUSSION (●) / DECISION (*)

I. (•) POS Adjustments

The CC discussed proposed changes to the sequence of courses in math at the high school. The students in Pre-calculus Honors could file an eligibility review to be placed into AP Calculus BC. The review would be based on grade, standardized test measures (PSAT AP Potential data), and teacher recommendation. Also, students in AP Calculus AB would be provided the choice of either AP Calculus BC or Multivariable Calculus. Students in Calculus Honors would be eligible for AP Calculus BC. The CC also discussed a revision to Option ii course work of "Credit May be Earned for a Maximum of One Course in One Year (July 1- June 30)" to be changed to "Credit May be Earned for a total of Four courses over a student's high school career with a Maximum of Two Courses in any one year. (July 1 – June 30)." The CC decided not to move the option ii change forward to the Board. The CC discussed the problems with the need to grandfather those students who already have four or more courses as well as the possibility that taking two courses between 8th and 9th grade would be considered necessary to compete academically.

II. (•) Middle School 7th grade mathematics program

The CC discussed the elimination of level distinctions for pre-algebra in 7th grade. Prior to Algebra, math is less conceptual and symbolic in nature. The seventh grade Common Core is designed to deliver content that introduces students to symbolic mathematics while still enhancing skills and basic applications. This is also the target of our Pre-Algebra curriculum. When rewriting the Pre-Algebra curriculum to align it to the Common Core, the teachers found that our Pre-Algebra was below the standard and by raising the expectations; we closed the gap between Honors and College Prep Pre-Algebra. As it stands now, the two curriculums are very similar in content and expectation. The CC decided to table discussion of this until we receive the G&T program review.

III. (•) PARCC

The CC discussed the parent presentations that have begun for PARCC. They have been well attended. The final presentation will happen on February 5 @ 7:00 at HSN offered through Parent U of Community Education.

IV. (*) Purchasing Joint Agreements

To recommend entering into an agreement with the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission (MRESC) Cooperative Pricing System #65MCESCCPS and the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials (NJASBO) to be a participating district of the Alliance for Competitive Telecommunications in accordance with 18A:55-3.

The CC recommends entering into the agreement.

V. (*) Professional Development - Consultants

To recommend approval for the following consultants to provide training during the District Professional Development Day on February 19, 2015:

- Dr. Colette Gosselin from The College of New Jersey to co-present a workshop entitled 'The Power of Reflective Teaching Through Technology and Conversation' at no cost to the district.
- The Hindu American Foundation and the New Jersey Islamic Network Group to present a cultural diversity workshop for teachers at no cost to the district.
- Capital Health Systems to provide CPR training for Nurses at a cost not to exceed \$500.
- Lifeforce to provide CPR training for all K-8 Physical Education Teachers at a cost of \$50 per person, not to exceed \$1,500.
- American Red Cross to provide CPR/Lifeguard training for High School North Physical Education Teachers at a cost not to exceed \$500.

The CC recommends approval of the professional development consultants.

VI. (*) Non-public Technology

To recommend approval for expenditures of the FY 2015 NJ Nonpublic School Technology Initiative as follows: Montessori Corner at Princeton Meadows \$495.00

The CC recommends approval of the expenditures.

VII. (•) Proposed Future Meeting Dates

Future meeting dates were discussed and the following dates at 6:30pm were recommended:

Monday, February 9

Tuesday, March 3

Tuesday, March 31

Tuesday, May 5

Tuesday, June 2

Tuesday, July 14

Tuesday, August 18

Next Meeting Date: February 9

Future Topics

Program Review Updates