

West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education

Board Curriculum Committee Meeting Town Center Media Center March 31, 2015 6:30 PM

SUMMARY NOTES

BOE Attendance:

Dana Krug – Chair Isaac Cheng Scott Powell **Administrative Liaison:**

Martin Smith
David Aderhold

Guests:

DISCUSSION (•) / DECISION (*)

I. (•) K-5 Report Cards

The CC reviewed a preliminary draft of the K-5 report cards to be used starting in the 2015-16 school year. A group of K-5 teachers have been working all school year to write new indicators that are aligned to current curricula and the state standards. The Committee is recommending that there be consistency in the format of the report cards K-5, something that is not currently in place. It is proposed to move to a trimester reporting timeframe with report cards in December, March and June. The performance levels would be 3 (Meeting Learning Standards), 2 (Approaching Learning Standards), 1 (Not Meeting Learning Standards) and N/A (Not Assess At This Time) for the content area indicators. Three levels would also be used for assessing social and learning behaviors. In Language Arts, the teachers have proposed that we indicate the child's current reading level as well as the benchmarks for each trimester. The teachers will meet again throughout the month of April to finalize the wording of the indicators in each content area. Special Area teachers are also working to develop indicators for these subjects.

II. (•) Job Description: Technology Manager

The CC reviewed the job description for this new position. The Technology Manager would report to the Director of Technology and manage the work of the Technology team, either directly or through the proper delegation of authority; designs, installs, maintains, and supports computer communication networks within the district's local area network (LAN) and out to the Internet. The CC recommends approval of this job description.

III. (•) Job Description: Supervisor of Technology, Training, and Media Resources

The CC reviewed the job description for this new position. The Supervisor of Technology, Training and Media Resources would report to the Director of Technology and supervises and provides leadership in the planning, development, coordination, and evaluation of the Technology Curriculum and Instruction programs and related district-wide professional development programs and services. The CC recommends approval of this job description.

IV. (•) High School AP Course Offerings

The CC discussed the current offerings of AP courses at the high school. It was noted that in Science, students take a high school level course before the AP science course. Also, while the district does not officially offer an AP Physics course, our current Advanced Topics in Physics

Honors course does prepare students well for the multiple AP Physics exams. The CC discussed courses, mainly in the humanities, that we do not currently offer such as Micro and Macro Economics, Psychology, Environmental Science and Human Geography. The CC discussed the possible inclusion of the new AP Seminar and Research courses.

V. (*) OFAC Corrective Action Plan

The CC reviewed the corrective action plan and recommends that the Board approve this.

VI. (*) Science Kits

To recommend approval to enter into an agreement with ECA Educational Services to provide science kit refurbishing services for the 2015-2016 school year at a cost of approximately \$98,000.

The CC recommends approval to enter into this agreement.

VII. (*) Professional Development Travel Approval

To recommend approval for the following professional development workshops and travel:

- 8 teachers to attend various one-week Teachers College Summer Institutes at Columbia University, New York City, between June 22, 2015 and August 14, 2015, at a total cost not to exceed \$825 per person.
- 5 teacher resource specialists to attend various one-week Teachers College Summer Institutes at Columbia University, New York City, between June 22, 2015 and August 14, 2015, at a total cost not to exceed \$825 per person.
- 2 district administrators to attend Harvard University Graduate School Of Education's
 Future of Learning summer institute In Cambridge, Massachusetts, from July 27, 2015
 to July 31, 2015, at a cost to the district of \$1,800 per person. Workshop expenses over
 the district sponsored amount will be applied to the administrators' regular contracted
 allowance.

The CC recommends approval of the PD and travel.

VIII. (*) Overnight Field Trips

To recommend approval for the following overnight field trips

- District Robotics Team to attend the International Robotics Competition in St. Louis, Missouri, from April 22, 2015, through April 25, 2015. The cost of the trip is approximately \$1,000 per student.
- High School South Science Club to the National Oceanic Science Bowl in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, from April 23, 2015, through April 26, 2015. The cost of the trip is paid by the Federal Consortium of Ocean Leadership.
- High School South Science Club to the National Science Bowl in Washington, D.C., from April 30, 2015, through May 4, 2015. The cost of the trip is paid by the Department of Energy.

- Community Middle School Science Olympiad Team and High School North Science Olympiad Team to the Science Olympiad National Competition (SONC) at University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, from May 14, 2015, through May 17, 2015. The cost of the trip is approximately \$850 per student.
- Community Middle School Outdoor Education to Camp Canadensis, Canadensis Pennsylvania, from June 3, 2015, through June 5, 2015. The cost of the trip is approximately \$210 per student.

The CC recommends approval of the field trips.

IX. (*) Non-Public Technology Initiative

To recommend approval for expenditure of the FY 2015 NJ Nonpublic School Technology Initiative as follows: French American School \$1,912.00

The CC recommends approval of the expenditure.

Next Meeting Date: May 4, 2015

Future Topics
Program Review Updates
Summer Reading Lists
HS BYOD Update