Curriculum Committee Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting
Spaulding Union High School Elementary/Middle School
March 13th, 2017

In Attendance
- Joe Blakely, Committee Chair and Board Member
- Brenda Waterhouse, Principal
- Rick McCraw, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, BSU
- Christine Smith, SHS Librarian

Agenda
1. Review/approve minutes of February 20th
2. Changes to agenda
3. Conversion of the SHS library into a media center and makerspace
4. Upcoming agenda and meeting date/s.
5. The meeting was called to order at 3:03.

1. Review/approve minutes of February 20th, 2017
Minutes were approved as submitted.

2. Changes to agenda
No changes were made.

3. Conversion of the SHS library into a media center and makerspace
See PDF of Christine’s slide deck.

Christine’s recent training has opened her eyes to an evolving picture of the library as a “learning commons.” 21st-century goals of libraries: “… [to] instill a love of learning in all students and ensure equitable access to information,” with “equitable access” being key.

Christine’s goals as expressed in her slide deck:
1. Cultivate an inviting environment
2. Recreate the physical space
3. Create a virtual presence
4. Celebrate literature
5. Foster technology, physical and digital literacy/citizenship
6. Celebrate learning – encourage more teachers to conduct their classes in the library. Chris wants to be in classrooms with teachers as students create content.
7. Foster collaboration.

Christine points out that students find physical books much more appealing than e-books.

The library is very busy during advisory times and before school. Christine’s goal is for the library to be “warm and welcoming.”

We viewed a video on the idea of the learning commons: Open spaces for meeting and teaching. Layout is flexible to accommodate different types and scales of activities.

Circulation desk would move to the center of the library for better visibility and accessibility to librarians.

Makerspaces are part of learning commons. These spaces feature art supplies, computers, creation software, etc. We viewed a video on a makerspace in a New Jersey high school.
Brenda and Christine both emphasized that you can spend almost any amount of money to create a makerspace, but you can do a lot with very little.

See Christine’s slide titled “Changing Roles of Librarians” and the one titled “My Mission.”

Brenda discussed the timeline being associated with carpet replacement in two to three years (which will be paid for from the general operating budget).

Joe asked if libraries use mirrors to monitor borrowers in areas having limited visibility. They do not, in an effort to maintain privacy.

We then toured the library as Christine and Brenda described how various spaces might be repurposed. Key points included placing the circulation desk in the center of the library and ways to repurpose the e-classroom.

4. Upcoming agenda and meeting date/s.

The next meeting will tentatively be on April 10th with summer reading being the topic.

Subsequent meeting agendas will be as follows:

- May: Multi-disciplinary team; credit recovery; Phoenix program
- June: Proficiency-based graduation requirements; community service; plans for 2017-18 school year
- Unspecified: Literacy Team and Joey Hawkins’ work.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00w.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Rick McCraw
Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment
Barre Supervisory Union