



HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

Attending Board Members: Lori Ammirati-chair, Eileen Briamonte, Victoria Flynn,,
Chiung Yin Liu

Administrators: Robert McGarry, Meryl Gill, Dineen Seeley, Alicia Farese, Alicia Killean, Jennifer Riggi, Emily Wright

Curriculum & Instruction/Special Services Village School Conference Room 117 October 17, 2019 @ 3:30 PM

Superintendent's Recommendations for Approval

1. Approval of Out-of-District Travel, District Personnel
2. Approval of Student Field Trips
3. Title Fund Motions- approval of Out-of-District Travel for Professional Development Activities or Professional Development Meetings for Non-Public Staff
4. Approval of Presenters-staff professional development, for the 2019/2020 school year
5. Approval of District Clubs-clubs and activities at all public schools
6. Approval of Dual Enrollment Program- the Brookdale Community College and Holmdel High School Dual Enrollment Program Agreement for the 2019-2020 school year
7. Approval of NJ Seal of Biliteracy Program
8. Monmouth County Performing Arts Academy Program Partnership for Middle and High School Students 2019-2020
9. Approval of Professional Development Consultant
10. Approval of Textbooks/Supplemental Resources for Instruction-Health/Physical Education textbook:Advanced First Aid, CPR, and AED for the Emergency & Clinical Care course.
11. Approval of Student Placements
12. Approval of Home Instruction-Home /Hospital Instruction
13. Approval of Student Teachers/Clinical Practice/Observations/Field Experience-a student from Boston University for student observation in the area of speech education, W.R. Satz School

Items to Discuss

1. Presentations:
 - a. Standardized Assessment Data Report-the committee previewed the presentation of the Standardized Assessment Data Report that will be given at tonight's BOE meeting. The presentation will be posted on the school website for viewing for those that could not attend tonight's meeting.The Committee requested that the slide show be shared with the other Board members in advance of the Board meeting either through the C&I notes or board mailing.
2. New Business
 - a. QSAC DPR Review-The committee reviewed District Performance Reviews based on an analysis of quality performance indicators of school district effectiveness in the areas of Instruction and Program.
 - b. Change in Gr. 5 Science Testing Dates to May 27 & 28, 2020-Please note the change in date for the Grade 5 Science Testing.

c. Course Placement

- Schedule 6-8 & 9-12- Dates/schedule of course placement for grades 6-12 for 2020/2021 school year
- Criteria 6-8 & 9-12-2020-2021 Course Placement Criteria for Rising Grades 6-8 & Rising grades 9-12

3. Old Business

- a. Pep Band-Dr. McGarry provided the Board with his decision regarding revisions to the current curriculum for Symphonic and Jazz Band Courses to incorporate participation in the pep band as an additional participation requirement, based upon a recommendation that was provided to him by Dr. Seeley because Dr. Seeley formed a committee to evaluate the current requirements of band classes at the high school in response to the feedback of students, parents, teachers and staff. Parents and students were provided an opportunity to provide input regarding the band class requirements through a Google form. A student committee was formed and there were three meetings with this committee to develop a new recommendation. Also participating with this committee Ms. Riggi, Mr. Brown, Mr. Koryat, Mr. McCormick. Approximately 15 to 20 students attended each meeting and the following guidelines were developed with the assistance of the students.

1. Pep Band will be a required performance component of the Symphonic and Jazz Band Courses, however, there will be an alternative differentiated performance opportunity available for students upon request by students.

2. Pep Band attendance participation:

- a. One excused absence during the regular season and one excused absence in the post-season is permitted without a required make-up assignment.
- b. Excused absence criteria will be included in the course expectations and communicated to students.
- c. Make-up assignments will be available for students who miss more than one Pep Band performance to earn full credit

3. Pep Band performance participation make-up assignments:

- a. Available for Pep Band performances only
- b. Due within one week of missed performance
- c. Performance recording of music assigned by the teacher that appropriately challenges the individual student (a standards-based written assignment may be available as an alternative to a recorded performance assignment, if necessary, at the discretion of the teacher).

4. Continue to allow non-band students in Pep Band.

The Committee Members encouraged the Superintendent to ensure that these revised guidelines are clearly communicated to students, parents and staff members, both in any immediate communication to interested parties and in the future program of studies. In response, the Committee was informed that a number of current students were already aware of these changes because they helped draft the proposed changes.

The Committee Members also requested that it be clearly explained what performance requirements fall within the term "alternative differentiated performance opportunity" so that students can make an informed decision as to whether to sign up for these band classes in the future. This was a concern brought to the Board's attention by students and parents regarding the additional time required to participate in the pep band -- indeed, students who participate in any fall sports may not be able to fully meet this performance

requirement was discussed, as an example. These concerns were also reflected in some of the comments of the survey that was shared with the Committee at the meeting. Dr. McGarry indicated that those students with those situations would be provided with an alternative differentiated performance opportunity and that he will revise the language to provide more clarity as to what kind of performances would fall within that category. The Committee asked that the information be shared with the Committee and the Board.

The Committee Members also requested that the school provide the pep band with access to instruments so that students need not expose their personal instruments to any inclement weather conditions when participating at the pep band (as this was another issue brought to the Board's attention by parents and students). The Committee was informed that there are additional instruments available and that this would be provided. Dr. McGarry also expressed his concern about the students and instruments being exposed in the future to certain weather conditions that are not conducive; he indicated that would not occur in the future, as it had in the past.

Finally, the Committee asked questions about the evaluation component associated with this performance requirement. The administration indicated that this is a matter that will be revisited next year.

4. Items for the Good of the Order-none
5. Next meeting date: November 13, 2019, 3:30-5:30 PM