

## **CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, February 11, 2020**

**Administration Building Board Room**

### **PRESENT:**

#### **Committee:**

Mrs. Barbara Harvey

#### **Board:**

Ms. Kathryn Chandless, Mr. Nick Reynolds, Mrs. Tracy Alberti, Mrs. Desiree Tomasco, Mr. Nicholas Siano, Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Mr. John McKenzie, Mr. Mark Sereni, Mr. Joseph Driscoll

#### **Administration:**

Dr. Tina Kane, Dr. Constance Bompadre, Dr. Heather Logue, Mr. James Orwig, Mr. Jake Gallagher, Mr. Chris Lee, Dr. Dorie Pitone, Mr. John Beltrante, Mrs. Christa Palladino

### **I. Call to Order**

Mrs. Harvey led the meeting on behalf of Mr. DeNucci. The meeting was called to order at 6:50 p.m.

### **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance was done prior to the Budget and Operations Meetings this evening.

### **III. Approval of Minutes**

The January 28, 2020 minutes were approved by the committee.

### **IV. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as presented.

### **V. Discussion/Informational Items**

#### **A. CTE Program Offerings at DCCC – Mr. John Beltrante**

Mr. Beltrante and Mrs. Palladino presented a power point on the CTE Program Offerings at Delaware County Community College that they are proposing to add as an option to the current high school curriculum for the fall 2020. This opportunity became available about a month ago, and they are presenting at this time as the students are currently participating in course selections for next year. The two programs are Carpentry and Manufacturing.

Mr. Beltrante presented the Carpentry Program. This program would follow a schedule where the student would take 31 credits over their junior and senior year, and it would complement their high school classes at Marple Newtown High School. The student would

have the opportunity to complete one additional year post high school and earn an Associate's Degree. The number of job opportunities in this field are projected to increase 7-10% over the next ten years.

Mrs. Palladino reported on the Manufacturing Program Offering following a similar schedule. Jobs in this field are projected to increase 11% over the next several years. She commented that if our district were to provide this opportunity, there would be additional opportunities to expand to other vocational programs with DCCC in future years. Participation in this program would bring our students to the next level in career readiness.

Our district currently participates in a vocational program with Delaware County Technical School. This provides students the opportunity to earn trade skills through the technical school in junior and senior year of high school. The cost to cover a student for the current program with the technical school is approximately \$9,000.00 per student. The cost for the program at DCCC would be approximately half the price per student with a cost around \$4,250.00 for the two-year program. Students would be responsible for the tuition costs the year following graduation if they wish to pursue an Associates degree. There is a placement test required to enter the program at DCCC.

#### **B. AP Testing and Weight – Mr. John Beltrante**

Mr. Beltrante reported on the Advanced Placement (AP) testing and weight. He formed an AP Committee last year to evaluate changes in AP courses over the years, rigor of these courses, how students are informed of offerings, weight proportion for AP classes and the process involving teacher recommendation for AP courses. He reported that College Board is now providing classroom diagnostic testing. With the help of the Teaching and Learning Team, the district was able to send nine members over the summer to train at LaSalle University for professional development for AP programs. Over the past two years, approximately 30% of students have opted not to take the AP exams after participating in an AP course. Currently, there are 604 AP seats occupied at the high school with 26 AP course offerings. There are 471 exam registrations currently filled; however, 24% of our students enrolled in AP courses at the high school are not registered to take the AP exam. Factors that may contribute to students opting out of the exam include cost, policies and requirements for current AP courses. Additionally, some colleges are no longer accepting AP courses for college credits. Mr. Beltrante will be meeting with students who did not register for the AP exam to find out specific reasons for not signing up.

#### **C. District Website – Mr. Christopher Lee**

Mr. Lee reported on the new proposed contract with FinalSite for the development of a new website for Marple Newtown School District and its schools. Dr. Kane, Mr. Driscoll and Mr. Lee researched website platforms and felt this proposed platform is modernized, with a more collegial facet to complement multimedia and social media functions, including a feature to adhere to required compliances. The cost for the set-up is \$10,000.00, and the annual cost is \$21,000.00 starting in July, 2020 for a term of five years. The district is requesting Board approval for this new website platform.

**D. Fiber Optics – Mr. Christopher Lee**

Mr. Lee reported on the new proposed Delaware County Regional WAN and Internet contract, Delaware County Fiber Optic Network. These services provide network and internet connectivity to the county and Pennsylvania State networks and the cost is \$20,766.36 annually. The contract is for a term of two years starting July 1, 2020. The price difference includes an additional \$1,900.00 cost, and Mr. Lee feels the price is well worth the investment. This plan would allow our district to maintain optic fiber, 10g between home and schools.

**VI. Motions:**

The motion to approve the 2020-2021 Academic District Calendar as presented was approved and will be forwarded to the Board Meeting on 2/25/2020 for final approval. All other motions will be moved along to the Board Meeting.

**February 2020 CIT Motions**

**Calendar:**

- A. Motion to approve the 2020-2021 Academic District Calendar as presented.**

**Teacher Trips:**

- B. Motion to approve Dr. Michael Karpyn, teacher, to attend the National Council for History Education in Cleveland, Ohio on March 20-22, 2020. Dr. Karpyn will be a presenter. The cost of transportation is \$495.00. The cost of the conference is \$220.00. The cost of lodging is \$370.00. The total cost to the district is \$1,085.00.**
- C. Motion to approve Mrs. Elizabeth Landes, teacher, to attend the Milken Educator Awards Forum Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana on March 26-29, 2020. The cost of transportation is \$504.00 paid by the Milken Foundation. The cost of the conference is \$595.00 paid by the Milken Foundation. The cost of lodging is \$795.00 paid by the Milken Foundation. There is no cost to the district.**

**Administrative Trips:**

- D. Motion to approve Mrs. Stephanie Sturdivant, Worrall Elementary School Principal, to attend the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators, (PASA) Leadership forum in State College, Pennsylvania on March 29-31, 2020. The topic is on School Climate and School Safety. The cost of transportation is \$213.44. The cost of lodging and meals is \$395.26. The cost of the conference is \$349.00. The total cost to the district is \$957.70.**
- E. Motion to approve Dr. Tina Kane, Superintendent, to attend the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators (PASA) Women's Caucus 2020 in Hershey, Pennsylvania on May 17-18, 2020. The cost of the conference is \$289.00. The cost of lodging is \$229.00. The total cost to the district is \$518.00.**

- F. Motion to approve Mrs. Christa Palladino, Assistant Principal, to attend the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators (PASA) Women's Caucus 2020 in Hershey, Pennsylvania on May 17-18, 2020. The cost of transportation is \$51.44. The cost of the conference is \$289.00. The cost of lodging is \$229.00. The total cost to the district is \$569.44.

**Athletic Trip:**

- G. Motion to approve Ms. Jaime Cessna and Ms. Kayla Murray, coaches, to accompany 3 student athletes from the High School Boys Swim and Dive Team to travel to Lewisburg, Pennsylvania on March 11-15, 2020 for the PIAA Swimming and Diving State Championships. The cost of transportation is \$2,464.14. The cost of lodging and meals is \$3,425.00. The total cost to the district is \$5,889.14.

**Club Trip:**

- H. Motion to approve Mrs. Jess Protesto and Mr. Donald Sloat, teachers, to accompany the High School FTC Robotics Club to travel to Red Lion, Pennsylvania on February 29, and March 1, 2020 for the State Championships. The cost of transportation is \$982.73. The cost of the activity is \$275.00. The total cost to the district is \$1,257.73.
- I. Motion to approve Ms. Jill Gill and Ms. Laura Risley, teachers, to accompany the High School Bocce Team to travel to Hershey, Pennsylvania on March 18-19, 2020 for the PIAA Unified Indoor Bocce State Championships/Special Olympics. The cost of transportation is \$1,109.78. The cost of the hotel is covered by the Special Olympics. The total cost to the district is \$1,109.78.

**Band/Color Guard Trips:**

- J. Motion to approve Mr. Matthew Hurley, coach, to accompany the High School Indoor Color Guard to travel to Atlantic City, New Jersey on April 18, 2020 for the Indoor Color Guard Mid Atlantic Championships. The cost of transportation is \$1,458.02. The cost of the activity is \$1,000.00 paid by the boosters. The total cost to the district is \$1,458.02.
- K. Motion to approve Mrs. Laura Quackenbush, teacher, to accompany the Elementary Schools Tiger Band to travel to Wilmington, Delaware on May 9, 2020 to perform the National Anthem before the Blue Rocks Game. Transportation is provided by the students' parents. The cost of the activity is \$16.00 per student paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

**Clubs:**

- L. Motion to approve The Kindness Club at Paxon Hollow Middle School. The purpose of this club is to be kind and make people happy. The club advisor is Mrs. Johanson.

- M. Motion to approve The Girl Up Marple Club at Marple Newtown High School. The purpose of this club is to provide a space to educate and empower young people in the school community focusing on gender equality, leadership and service. Girl Up is a United Nations Campaign, similar to Model United Nations. The club advisors are Ms. Hazelwood and Mrs. Friedman.**

**Technology:**

- N. Motion to approve the contract with FinalSite for the development of a new website for the Marple Newtown School District and its schools. The cost for setup is \$10,000.00 and the annual cost is \$21,000.00 starting July, 2020 for a term of five years.**
- O. Motion to approve the Delaware County Regional WAN and Internet contract: Delaware County Fiber Optic Network. These services provide network and internet connectivity to the county and Pennsylvania State networks and costs \$20,766.36 annually. The contract is for a term of two years starting July 1, 2020.**

**Donations or Disposals:**

- P. Motion to donate or dispose of obsolete Microfilm Drawers from the High School used in the past by the Counseling Department and the Library: Microfiche Machine, 3M Tattle Tape Dual Bookcheck machine, Model 31B, 3M Library Systems Anti-theft Device, and Indus Model 11 Canon PC Printer 80, 330M@Auto Carrier, and View Finder.**

**Public Comment**

A parent commented on the smooth transition of renovations at Culbertson. He thanked the district for working on updating the website. He said according to the Board policy 802, the Board is responsible to set educational goals for the students and the Superintendent is responsible to implement the goals. He commented Marple Newtown School District has a phenomenal team of Administrators, and he would encourage the Board to act as a coach, providing educational goals to enhance easier conversations between the Board, the school district and parents.

A parent commented that she is pleased to see there will be a new website and suggested the possibility of removing advertisements from the new website.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rose Vannicolo  
Curriculum Secretary