

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Administration Building Board Room

PRESENT:

Committee: Mr. Leonard Altieri, Ms. Barbara Harvey, Mr. John McKenzie

Board: Ms. Kathryn Chandless, Mr. Nick Reynolds, Mr. Matthew Catania,
Mr. Matthew DeNucci

Administration: Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Dr. Constance Bompadre, Mr. Chris Lee, Dr.
Heather Logue, Dr. Dorie Pitone, Mr. Matthew Flood, Mr. John Beltrante, Mr. Christian
Jaspersen, Mr. Donald Tabar, Ms. Christa Palladino

I. Call to Order

Mr. Altieri called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Altieri led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

The October, 2018 minutes were approved by the committee.

IV. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented with the following addendum:

I. Firewall and Client Security Software

Mr. Altieri addressed that the spelling of **Lockheed** Martin on the agenda needs to be corrected.

V. Discussion/Informational Items

A. Testing Schedule for Keystone Exams – Mr. Donald Tabar

Mr. Tabar presented on the Testing Schedule for Keystone Exams at the high school in May, 2019. The high school is requesting a motion for a 2 ½ hour delay schedule for all six Keystone testing dates. Mr. Tabar looked at other school districts and after speaking with teachers and students, it was determined that it would be most beneficial for the students to follow a delay schedule versus the modified schedule. Following the block schedule, students could go four days without meeting with one of their teachers and this presents a problem for teachers and students getting caught up on work. There was some discussion on costs involved in a second bus run for the high school to accommodate these delays. This will be further investigated.

B. Updates to the High School Course Selection Guide – Mr. Christian Jaspersen

Mr. Jaspersen presented three course proposals for the High School Course Selection Guide for 2019-2020. Following meetings with the Counseling Office and students, the high school is proposing to add AP Geography for incoming 9th grade students, as well as Media Podcasting I and Media Podcasting II. Currently, 9th graders do not have the opportunity to participate in an AP History course. It was felt that this will be an opportunity to establish a course with rigor and will also be used as a benchmark for further AP History courses. There would be data points established by the middle school to determine who may participate in this course. In looking at the MNSD profile, the higher number of AP course offerings would illustrate the academic rigor of courses offered by our school district.

Media Podcasting I and Media Podcasting II are two additional new course proposals the high school would like to offer. A student survey showed 82% interest in these courses. It was discussed that these courses could be phased in as an alternative to replace an elective course that has had little or no enrollment over the past few years.

C. Humanities Course at PHMS – Dr. Dorie Pitone and Mr. Matthew Flood

Dr. Pitone and Mr. Flood met with Dr. Kane and would like to move ahead with the implementation of the Humanities course at Paxon Hollow. This would follow the model used at the high school and replace the current Enriched English and Enriched History. The course introduces an academic rigor that will enhance literary skills, analytical reading and critical thinking skills.

D. Student Records Policy #216 – Dr. Heather Logue

Dr. Logue presented on an amendment in Student Records Policy #216. At the recommendation of the Special Education solicitor, Dr. Logue is requesting to amend the current Student Policy #216 that emails would no longer be a part of the educational record of the student. She is asking for approval to the amendment and for a waiver of the first reading.

Mr. Altieri congratulated Dr. Logue on receiving her Doctorate Degree.

E. Mobile Device Plan for First Grade – Mr. Christopher Lee and Dr. Dorie Pitone

Dr. Pitone and Mr. Lee reported on the Mobile Device Plan for First Grade beginning next school year 2019-2020. They are proposing a strategic plan to use iPads in Grade 1 as an initiative to motivate students, offering multiple opportunities to learn, focusing on a smaller group and would include using computer applications. Curriculum Supervisors, along with Mr. Lee, will oversee and monitor this process and training of computer applications. Professional Development will be provided to teachers in January, along with workshops in June and on opening days next school year. Mr. Lee reported on “In Tune” products and will be involved in a conference call with other districts to deploy out settings so this may be streamlined for teachers and students. He has requested to reallocate the money in the budget and use it for the iPads.

F. Ready to Learn Grant – Dr. Dorie Pitone

Dr. Pitone reported on the Ready to Learn Grant and the best utilization of this grant. After discussions with Mr. Driscoll and Dr. Bompadre, it was determined that the grant money would be best used to audit our ELA curriculum and to identify appropriate professional training and resources. Dr. Pitone will meet with DCIU to assist with the grant. She reported that DCIU will work with our Curriculum Office at no charge to provide additional services and expertise.

G. Analysis of Fiction and Non-Fiction Text – Dr. Dorie Pitone

Dr. Pitone reported that Curriculum Department is working with DCIU on training teachers in Analysis of Fiction and Non-Fiction text. Twenty-three teachers were trained in Growth Mindset at our November In-Service day. It was found that there is a lack of analysis in students' work. This analysis process will teach students to provide evidence, draw inferences, write well-written essays and will focus working on analytical skills. Professional Learning will be provided to teach analysis and modeling lessons.

H. Grant Application with Project Lead the Way (PLTW) and Lockheed Martin- Dr. Constance Bompadre

Dr. Bompadre reported that she received an email from the Senior Director of School Engagement of the Eastern Region of Project Lead the Way regarding the possibility of a partnership with Lockheed Martin. The grant is offered to high schools who currently teach PLTW courses. The hope is that a partnership could lead to possible internship opportunities for our students. Dr. Bompadre will keep the Board posted with any further developments on our grant application.

I. Firewall and Client Security Software – Mr. Christopher Lee

Mr. Lee requested a motion to replace our current firewall and client security software with a newer model which will provide longer longevity. Currently the technology department moves about 8,600 messages per day, of which 3,900 are blocked or quarantined each day. He is also requesting to add two items for a layered protection approach including FortiAnalyzer which offers spam protection and an End Point software for applications control. As for funding, he would take the current \$18,000.00 for maintenance and firewalls and other \$16,000.00 for our current antivirus and cover the bill for this.

VI. Motions

There were no comments on agenda motions. The following Motions have been moved along to full Board.

November 2018 CIT Motions

Agreement:

- A. Motion to approve the Neumann University Facility Temporary Licensing Agreement with Marple Newtown School District for the**

High School Commencement on June 13, 2019 for \$11,785.00 upon Solicitor's approval.

Policies:

- B. Motion to approve changes to Policy #216 Student Records as presented for a second reading and waiving the first reading.**

Comprehensive Plan:

- C. Motion to submit the 2019-2022 Comprehensive Plan to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.**

Administrative Conferences:

- D. Motion to approve Mr. Christopher Oakes, supervisor, to attend the Standards Aligned System (SAS) Institute on December 10, 2018 in Hershey, Pennsylvania. The cost of the conference is \$100.00. The cost of mileage is \$44.91. The total cost to the district is \$144.91.**
- E. Motion to approve Dr. Dorie Martin-Pitone, Director of Teaching and Learning, to attend the Standards Aligned System (SAS) Institute on December 10, 2018 in Hershey, Pennsylvania. The cost of the conference is \$100.00. The cost of mileage is \$44.91. The total cost to the district is \$144.91.**
- F. Motion to approve Mr. Matthew Oberecker, supervisor, to attend the Standards Aligned System (SAS) Institute on December 11, 2018 in Hershey, Pennsylvania. The cost of the conference is \$100.00. The cost of mileage is \$44.91. The total cost to the district is \$144.91.**
- G. Motion to approve Mrs. Carolyn Campbell, teacher, to attend the Accelerate Your Students' Communicative Proficiency Seminar on December 17, 2018 in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. The cost of the conference is \$269.00, paid by the district.**
- H. Motion to approve Dr. Thomas Gretchen, Principal, to attend the Pennsylvania Federal Program Conference – Title I Awards on January 13-15, 2019 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The cost of the conference is \$400.00. The cost of transportation is \$318.80. The cost of lodging is \$362.52. The total cost to the district is \$1081.32.**
- I. Motion to approve Mr. Christopher Gicking, athletic director, and the following football coaches: Mr. Zach Young, Mr. Harry Gicking, Mr. Josh Crooks, Mr. Michael Willard, and Mr. Scott Williams to attend the Glazier Clinics on February 8-10, 2019 in Baltimore, Maryland and February 22-24, 2019 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The cost of transportation is \$435.35. The cost of the conference is \$499.00. The cost of lodging is \$514.00 per person. Transportation and lodging will be paid by Mr. Gicking and coaches. The total cost to the district is \$499.00.**
- J. Motion to approve Mr. Christopher Lee, Director of Technology, and**

Dr. Richard Slonaker, Coordinator of Student Information, to attend the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) Summit on March 24-27, 2019 in Hershey, Pennsylvania. The cost of the conference is \$600.00. The cost of transportation is \$272.22. The cost of lodging is \$912.42. The total cost to the district is \$1784.64.

Club Trips:

- K. Motion to approve Mrs. Jennifer Cipollone, counselor, Ms. Tracy Jacobson, counselor, and Mr. Brian Isselman, teacher, to accompany 200 students to travel to Morey's Pier on May 29, 2019 in Wildwood, New Jersey for a Renaissance Recognition Event. The cost of transportation is \$25.00 per student paid by the students and the PTO. The cost of the activity is \$25.00 per student paid by the students and the PTO. There is no cost to the district.**
- L. Motion to approve Mr. Douglas Killough, teacher, to accompany 8 students from the Model United Nations Club to travel to Hershey, Pennsylvania on January 4-6, 2019 for a Model UN Program. The cost of transportation is \$100.00 per student paid by the students. The cost of the activity and lodging is \$350.00 per student paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.**

Student Trips:

- M. Motion to approve Mrs. Michele Lunn, teacher, and Mrs. Holly Dunleavy, teacher, to accompany the Paxton Hollow Middle School grade 7 class to travel to Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC), in Dingmans Ferry, Pennsylvania on May 8-10, 2019. The cost of transportation is \$88.00 per student paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$194.00 per student paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.**
- N. Motion to approve Mr. Jordan Marmelstein, teacher, and Mrs. Mary Anne Hrin, teacher, to accompany the Paxton Hollow Middle School music students to travel to the High Note Festival in Allentown, Pennsylvania on May 31, 2019. The cost of transportation is \$27.00 per student paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$45.00 per student paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.**

Clubs:

- O. Motion to approve the request for a Dungeons and Dragons Club at the Paxton Hollow Middle School. The purpose of this club is to have a place to play and introduce people to Dungeons and Dragons. The club advisor is Mr. William Guy.**
- P. Motion to approve the request for a Technology Student Association (TSA) Club at the Paxton Hollow Middle School. The purpose of this club is to learn leadership, teamwork, community service, personal growth and recognition. The club advisor is Ms. Liza Atillasoy.**

- Q. Motion to approve the request for the Young Republican Club at Marple Newtown High School. The purpose of this club is to give young republicans safe space to discuss political topics. The club advisor is Dr. DeLuca.**
- R. Motion to approve the Trading Card Club at Marple Newtown High School. The purpose of this club is to create an environment where students can learn and play various trading card games. The club advisor is Mr. William Baker.**

Technology:

- S. Motion to approve the purchase of iPads through HP Financial Services in the amount of \$31,370.63 a year for a term of three years.**
- T. Motion to approve the purchase of a firewall and client security software at a cost of \$31,939.29 annually for a term of four years starting July 1, 2019 through HP Financial Services. There will be a onetime cost of \$939.74 to cover services for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year, starting January 2019.**

Public Comment

A parent questioned the wording of the “Young Republicans Club” safe space and whether there was a bullying issue here with the trigger words safe space. Dr. Bompadre reported that a student submitted the request and wrote safe space on the form. She reassured that there was no bullying concern here, and that all areas in the school building are considered safe areas.

Dr. Bompadre had requested a motion at a previous CIT Committee Meeting to submit the Comprehensive Plan by 11/30/2018. Mr. Driscoll and Dr. Logue both signed off on the plan and it is ready for submission. The CIT Committee requested that this be presented at next week’s Board Meeting for the full Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rose Vannicolo
Curriculum Secretary