

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, June 19, 2018
GAUNTLETT CENTER BOARD ROOM

PRESENT: **Committee:** Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Mr. Matt Bilker, Mr. John McKenzie

Board: Mr. Matt DeNucci, Mr. AJ Baker, Mr. Matt Catania, Mr. Nick Reynolds, Ms. Kathryn Chandless

Administration: Dr. Constance Bompadre, Mr. Chris Lee,
Dr. Dorie Pitone, Mr. Chris Oakes, Dr. Jo Johnston, Mr. Matt Flood, Dr. TJ Gretchen, Mr. Jim Wigo, Mr. John Beltrante, Mr. Jake Gallagher

I. Call to Order

Ms. Chandless called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Chandless led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

The May, 2018 minutes were approved by the committee.

IV. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

V. Discussion/Informational Items

A. Policy #138 English as a Second Language/Bilingual Education Program – *Dr. Dorie Martin Pitone*

Dr. Pitone explained to the committee that under ESSA, Every Student Succeeds Act, the EL policy is required under Federal law to be reviewed. The policy was sent to the state and the DCIU Council to verify updates that are required prior to the new school year. The policy will go into the Board Docs category of “Under Construction” within the week.

B. Computer Science – Dr. Josephine Johnston, Mr. Chris Oakes

Dr. Johnston and Mr. Oakes explained that in the state of Pennsylvania there are currently 17,255 job openings in computer science. In 2015, Pennsylvania only graduated 2,969 students in computer science. Computer Science standards will be approved in the near future. Both supervisors said that computing occupations are the number 1 source of all new wages in the

United States and make up two-thirds of all projected new jobs in STEM fields, making Computer Science one of the most in-demand college degrees.

The Computer Science standards introduce the fundamental concepts of computer science to all students, beginning at the elementary level. The Science and Math Supervisors would like to introduce computer science at the secondary level in a way that can fulfill a computer science, math, or science graduation credit. Computer Science standards would encourage schools to offer additional secondary-level computer science courses that will allow interested students to study facets of computer science in more depth and prepare them for entry into the work force or college.

Computer Science – Districtwide

In the 2018-2019 school year, Dr. Johnston, Mr. Oakes and Dr. Gretchen will oversee a K-12 STEM Committee. Mr. Oakes will attend the Immaculata Stem Cohort. There will be an Administrative Code.Org training via DCIU. The DCIU oversees all Code.Org training for eastern Pennsylvania.

Computer Science – High School

2018-2019 – Mr. Oakes said that 3 computer science courses are offered, Introduction to Computer Science, AP Computer Science, AP Computer Science Principles. A new resource, Edhesive, which was recently approved at a Board Meeting, will be used to deliver instruction.

2019-2020 – review technology education curriculum and resources and incorporate technology education into science courses.

Computer Science – Middle School

2018-2019 – both middle school computer teachers will be trained in Code.org via DCIU. The training will give them the content knowledge they need to take the Praxis. In order to teach computer science, they will be required to have a certification in Computer Science.

2019-2020 – replace word processing/keyboarding with computer science concepts. This will coincide with the curriculum cycle.

Computer Science – Elementary

2018-2019 – Twenty –two elementary teachers will be trained in Code.org via DCIU. Keyboarding is now taught at the elementary level. By the time students reach 3rd grade, they should be able to type a short essay.

Librarians will teach Unplugged Code.org lessons as part of the library curriculum. A computer is not needed for the Unplugged Code.org lessons.

C. Continued Discussions on Potential Future Building renovations and Fields Project

Mr. Bonnett shared Proposed Site Plan – Option A – Alternate 2 which would have a smaller fieldhouse on the lower field. There would be restrooms for the public. Option A 2, all grass,

would cost \$4,059,000. The artificial turf, Option A, would cost \$6,644,000. There was a great deal of discussion regarding turf versus grass. A suggestion was made to focus on the Varsity fields for turf and not turf the JV and freshmen fields, as a means of saving money. Several Board members were discussing the advantages and the disadvantages of artificial turf. Another question was raised about lighting for the fields with the all grass option. Mr. Bonnet said lights could be added, if that is what the Board wanted. The cost for any changes can be recalculated. A Board member said that the reason the all grass option was mentioned was to save several million dollars for renovation projects and field expansion projects. A Board member felt that whatever decision is made, it should be voted on at the end of June. Mr. Bonnett said that updated costs would be ready for the regular Board Meeting.

Continuing the discussion on building renovations – Board looking to expand Culbertson and Loomis, because of a capacity issue, but also have the flexibility to add more space to accommodate new programs. There are other capital projects that will be going on at the other schools. There was discussion about doing renovations in phases/rotations to accommodate all the needs for each building. Mr. Bonnett said that there would be 2 summers of construction, 2019 and 2020. Mr. Bonnett will meet with Mr. Driscoll to come up with a comprehensive plan showing all renovations for the schools and then vote on the design process. One Board member is concerned that the process is being rushed and that all day Kindergarten was not included. The response was that program space be included in the design, whether it is for Kindergarten or some other program.

Public Comment

A parent inquired about adding 2 classrooms per building, just in case full day Kindergarten does come about. A Board member said the District is keeping its options open. Dr. Bompadre shared with the committee and audience that full day Kindergarten does impact on each grade and that it is a bigger impact than one might think.

A parent inquired about enrollment in first and second grade. She feels that it is high and asked about “overflow” if one school had a higher enrollment than another. A Board member asked if the District has looked at the map, regarding redistricting. Dr. Bompadre said that redistricting is an option, although not a popular one.

A parent read a letter to the MNSD School Board regarding the search for a new superintendent. The parents would like access to the process that the School Board is using for the search and to have public updates. They prefer that Mr. Driscoll not act as interim Superintendent and Business Manager. They would like an experienced educator to act as interim superintendent.

Mr. Conroy spoke of the 1-1 program for electronic devices and CyberLearning. A Board member said that the District is dealing with technology. Mr. Lee responded that no district does a districtwide 1-1 program. It must include all students, not just the high school and that a 1-1 program cannot deliver all of the content.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn M. Paine

