

**MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, October 15, 2013
GAUNTLETT CENTER BOARD ROOM**

PRESENT: **Committee:** Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mr. A.J. Baker, Mr. Jim Lanzalotto, Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Mrs. Sherry Lee McCauliffe

Board: Ms. Kathryn Chandless, Mr. Leonard Altieri, Mr. Robert Sack

Administration: Dr. Constance Bompadre, Dr. Merle Horowitz,
Dr. Toni Himes, Mr. Christopher Lee, Dr. Tina Sweeley, Mr. Greg Puckett, Ms. Chris White, Ms. Sandy Schaal

I. Call to Order

Mrs. Galbraith called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Galbraith led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

The September 17, 2013 minutes were approved by the committee.

IV. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by the committee.

V. Discussion/Informational Items

A. School Performance Profile – Dr. Merle Horowitz

Dr. Horowitz shared a powerpoint presentation regarding the School Performance Profile. The School Performance Profile was developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. It is an online resource designed to provide information and resources on school quality for public schools across the Commonwealth.

Dr. Horowitz explained about the Teacher Effectiveness System in Act 82 of 2012. This is an educator rating tool. Our District had 42 teachers pilot the program and told the committee that 50% of the rating comes from observation/practice. Dr. Horowitz spoke of the second piece, Building Level Data, which is new this year. On June 30, 2014, Elective Data, will become part of the process.

Marple Newtown scored very well at the elementary and secondary level. PSSA's are given in grades 3-8. It was mentioned that grade 3 scores are good indicators as to how well students will score in the future. Keystone Exams are given at the High School in Algebra I, Literature, and Biology.

Dr. Horowitz explained in great detail about:

Academic Performance Score

Indicators of Academic Achievement

Closing the Achievement Gap – All students

Closing the Achievement Gap – Historically Underperforming Students

Indicators of Academic Growth

B. Exciting New Math Pilot/Grant Opportunity – Dr. Merle Horowitz

Mrs. Dianne Smith, Russell School Principal, has agreed to pilot the elementary technology math grant project. Most of the funding will be provided by ST Math (Spatial Temporal Math). The District will pay \$5,000 as start-up funding. The program will be used twice a week. It is a web-based program that will be used as supplementary instruction.

C. Keystone and PSSA Results – Dr. Connie Bompadre

All 3 Keystone Exams, Algebra, Literature, and Biology are now operational. Even though the Keystone is designed as an end of year test, many students had to take these exams even though they may have completed one of those subjects a year, two years ago.

From this year forward, students take the exam when they complete the course. In MNSD, passing the Keystone exams is a graduation requirement starting with the graduating class of 2014.

Dr. Bompadre shared Keystone performance results for advanced and proficient grade 11 students in 2012 and 2013. Scores did rise from 2012 to 2013.

Initiatives to help prepare the students at the high school include:

- Student's receive ½ credit for Remediation classes
- Biology Itinerant Remediation
- Common Planning Time
- Data Team Meetings
- Child Study process – revised
- Administrative Professional Development
- Classroom Diagnostic Tools – online tools designed to provide diagnostic information in order to guide instruction and provide support to students and teachers.

Dr. Bompadre shared PSSA results, grades 3 – 8 on a district wide level compared to state level.

Initiatives to help prepare middle school students include:

- 4 Sight
- Student Conferencing
- Data Teams
- Power Teaching framework – pilot that links Common Core, state standards, and school curricula to research-proven instructional strategies and classroom resources that promote rigor and student engagement.
- Professional Learning Community – language arts department aligning the curriculum with the Common Core Standards

Initiatives to help prepare elementary students include:

- Alignment to PA Common Core Standards
- Complex Texts
- New Writing Prompts
- Study Groups
- District Literacy Plan
- Pacing Guides
- Curriculum Based Assessments
- enVisionMath to focus on algebraic concepts
- Student Grouping
- Use of Achievement Data

Miscellaneous Discussion:

Several parents spoke to the CIT Committee about some problems with math at Paxon Hollow Middle School. Dr. Horowitz told the parents that she spoke with Dr. Subers about the parents' concerns. Dr. Subers also spoke with about 12 parents. Mr. Slonaker spoke to the Committee and concerned parents about the importance of having students speak mathematically. Mr. Slonaker will share concerns with Dr. Subers and the math team.

VI. Motions

The following motions were moved along to the full Board.

A. Motion to approve the sale or disposal of the following Thomson Learning publication of Middle School Science Textbooks:
50 *Living in the Environment*, 12th edition 2002, ISBN#0534389619

B. Motion to approve the sale or disposal of the following Glencoe Publishing High School Physics Textbooks:
120 *Physics Principals and Problems* 2009, ISBN#978-0-07-880721-3

C. Motion to approve the sale or disposal of the following Glencoe - McGraw Hill Publishing High School BSCS Biology Textbooks:

150 A Molecular Approach 2006, ISBN#0078664276

D. Motion to approve the sale or disposal of the following Kendall Hunt Publishing High School Biology Textbooks:

34 A Human Approach (BSCS) 1997, ISBN#0787703688

E. Motion to approve the sale or disposal of the following Holt Publishing High School Biology Textbooks:

30 Biology 2006, ISBN#0030740614

F. Motion to approve the sale or disposal of the following Benjamin Cummings Publishing High School Textbooks:

60 Campbell Biology – AP Edition 1996, ISBN#978-0-13-135691-7

G. Motion to approve Dr. Constance Bompadre, Asst. Superintendent, Dr. Toni Himes, Supervisor, Dr. Lara Munch, Supervisor, Ms. Sandy Schaal, Supervisor, Mrs. Sue Mecouch, Supervisor, to attend the Aligning Teacher Effectiveness, Learning Communities, and Curriculum in Preparing for the Rigor of the PA Common Core workshop in Grantville, PA on October 15, 2013. The total cost to the district for the conference is \$725.00.

H. Motion to approve Mrs. Mary Anne Hrin, Teacher, to accompany the 8th grade class to travel to the PA Renaissance Faire in Lancaster, PA on October 17, 2013. The total cost per pupil is \$33.00.

I. Motion to approve Ms. Sandra Schaal, Teacher, Mrs. Karen Can, Teacher, Mrs. Laura Wooden, Teacher, to attend the Arts and Education Symposium in Harrisburg, PA on October 30, 2013. The total cost to the district for the conference is \$120.00.

J. Motion to approve Mr. Michael Snow, Teacher/ Coach, to accompany the High School Ski and Outdoor Club to travel to Skirmish USA in Jim Thorpe, PA on December 14, 2013 for a team building activity. The total cost per pupil is \$85.00.

K. Motion to approve Mr. Arch Hunter, Teacher, to accompany High School Social Studies students to travel to the Gettysburg Battlefield in Gettysburg, PA on December 18, 2013 for a lesson in The Battle of Gettysburg. The total cost per pupil is \$45.00.

L. Motion to approve Mr. Michael Snow, Teacher/Coach to accompany the High School Ski and Outdoor Club to travel to Bear Creek Ski Resort in Macungie, PA on January 10, 2014. The total cost per pupil is \$50.00.

M. Motion to approve Mr. Michael Snow, Teacher/Coach to accompany the High School Ski and Outdoor Club to travel to Mt. Snow Ski Resort in Brattleboro, VT on February 28-March 2, 2014 for a team building activity. The total cost per pupil is \$350.00.

N. Motion to approve Mr. Michael Snow, Teacher/Coach to accompany the High School Varsity Softball Team to travel to Orlando, FL on March 13-17, 2014 for pre-season scrimmages. The total cost per pupil is \$800.00.

O. Motion to approve Mrs. Michele Lunn, Teacher to accompany the 7th grade class at Paxton Hollow MS to travel to the Pocono Environmental Education Center(PEEC) in Dingman's Ferry, PA on May 7-9, 2014 to study nature. The total cost per pupil is \$225.00.

P. Motion to approve the MN Ultimate Frisbee Club at the High School. The club advisor is Mr. Chris Carson. The purpose of the club is to bring students together to stay active by playing Frisbee.

Q. Motion to approve the MN Yoga Club at the High School. The club advisor is Ms. Kelly McCool. The purpose of the club is to relieve stress and to meet new friends.

R. Motion to approve the lease of 23 iMacs for the MNHS Photography program at an annual cost of \$8,517.14 for five years with HP Financial.

S. Motion to approve the Mediacast contract between MNSD and DCIU at an annual cost of \$5,500 for five years. This is for Cable TV distribution and replacement of video resources discontinued by the Delaware County School Districts and DCIU.

T. Motion to approve a pilot agreement with Mind Research Institute to implement a pilot of the Spatial Temporal (ST) Math Software program at Russell Elementary School at a cost of \$5,000 as the initial startup fee to cover staff development and support.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Paine