

BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2021

PRESENT

Angelo Amato
Angel Irigoyen
Amy Lestinsky
EJ Maher
Namita Wijesekera, Chair

OTHERS PRESENT

Colleen Murray
Kai Byrd
Tom Reed-Swale
Jackie Nathman

ABSENT

None

Call to Order

Dr. Wijesekera called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

New Business

Motion by Lestinsky, seconded by Amato to accept the August 25, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. *The motion carries 4 yes, 1 abstain (Maher).*

Mr. Bruder gave an update on the following topics:

- Hardware, software, and network updates
 - Replaced 123 Chromebooks
 - Added 6 new access points
 - Upgraded 3 switches and updated the firmware on the others
 - Upgraded the latest firmware on our firewalls
 - All servers updated to latest security patches
 - Updated all staff laptops
 - Sophos endpoint protection on all staff computers and servers
 - Classlink roster server
- Security and AV updates
 - Upgraded several cameras with new Axis units
 - New Axis door entry system for BOE office
 - Updated Axis Camera Station software
 - All new AV at the BOE office
 - New Cleartouch panels
- Student tech program updates
 - Ellen Roy, LMS, upgraded Destiny to a more child-friendly approach with pics of the books
 - BrainPop is now linked to our Google Domain - Tech integration to follow soon all teachers and students now have access with their own accounts
 - RazKids and Learning A to Z license reorganization
 - PebbleGo - Our current version was set for Spanish only- Currently trialing full version. Small version of capstone a nonfiction Digital DB for K-2. PebbleGo Next would cover 3-6 if we buy it. Ellen has shared a choice board with all products for staff to use. Would be initiated out of the learning commons first then out to the classrooms.

- BNN is going live with students starting tomorrow, Tom and Jackie have filled in admirably but have been relieved of their BNN duties.

Mr. Reed-Swale and Ms. Nathman gave the committee a presentation on student achievement (SBAC). They answered questions and took away recommendations for the BOE presentation next week.

Mrs. Byrd shared upcoming professional learning opportunities:

- Monday, October 11th
 - In-person: SEL, Curriculum, CGI/Goal Work
 - Virtual: DESSA, Trauma-Informed Work w/ Dr. Kimberly Citron from Connecticut Behavioral Health

The District is working on an updated professional development plan that will incorporate the new legislative changes and will assess the budgetary impact of these changes.

Staff have received training on the Devereux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA). The DESSA is a brief assessment of students' social-emotional skills. DESSA is a universal screener for staff to complete on students. The results will assist the District in supporting the whole child.

Mr. Reed-Swale provided an update on the work of the District and School Equity Teams. Both groups are identifying their roles and responsibilities. The District team will focus on broader categories, while the BCS team will conduct the R&D process before the implementation of initiatives.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Future Agenda Items

- Approval of the October 6, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Technology Update
- Curriculum Update
- Professional Learning Update
- Equity Update


Colleen M. Murray
Recorder

Approved December 1, 2021