



Board of School Directors Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August 15, 2018

Generated by Renai Cardillo on Thursday, August 16, 2018

Members present: Nicholas Braccio, William Brong, Janet Flisak, Ken Keith, Thomas Kwiatkowski, Stephen Nelson, Donna Scheuren

Members absent: Matt Holliday and Scott Jelinski

Others present: Frank Ball, Frank Gallagher, Christopher Hey, Ray Kase, Katie Kennedy-Reilly, William Stone, and Megan Zweiback

1. Education-Personnel Committee

1.1 IQWST - Investigating and Questioning our World through Science and Technology.

Mr. Kwiatkowski called the meeting to order at 6:31 P.M.

Dr. Gallagher noted that a comprehensive review of the middle school science curriculum resulted in an opportunity to revise and shift instructional practices.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly explained that IQWST (Investigating and Questioning our World through Science and Technology) would initially be implemented using two of the modules from the program. The phased-in approach allows time for professional development to support teachers and students. The introduction of the program will include more inquiry and student-centered learning. Dr. Kennedy-Reilly noted that the program is a research-based instructional resource that is supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Dr. Kennedy-Reilly also commented that the science curriculum would be integrated to include life, physical, and earth sciences along with chemistry. The approach offers more opportunities for students to focus and repeat, learning different layers of science principles with deeper examples of cause and effect and less memorization.

Mrs. Schuereen inquired about the cost of the program and our time commitment. Dr. Kennedy-Reilly responded that the year 1 cost of \$58,000 was already in the 2018-2019 budget. Mr. Kwiatkowski asked about the potential of costs being covered by IVEF grants and Dr. Kennedy-Reilly responded that it would be eligible.

Mrs. Flisak inquired about research-based results from other school districts and Dr. Kennedy-Reilly responded that this particular approach and its content is being recommended after a thorough investigation.

Mr. Braccio asked about the specifics of the kits and the grade levels that will be using them and Dr. Kennedy-Reilly responded that the incoming 6th graders will have the first full IWQST experience. Mr. Kwiatkowski asked about measuring the success rates of the program and Dr. Kennedy-Reilly replied that the MAP program assessment and PSSA data would provide results.

Mr. Kwiatkowski adjourned the Education-Personnel Meeting at 6:45 P.M.

2. Operations Committee

2.1 Indian Crest Walkability Audit and SRTS Training

Mr. Keith called the Operations Committee Meeting to order at 6:49 P.M.

Dr. Gallagher noted that two representatives from the Montgomery County Department of Health Department and the county's Planning Commission were present to discuss their walkability audit for Indian Crest.

Mr. Stone introduced Ann Leavitt-Gruberger and Claire Kuzmicki who worked with Mr. Ball and Mrs. McCoy this past school year.

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Ms. Kuzmicki spoke about the county-wide approach which emphasizes walking and biking as a form of community engagement. She noted focus points within the approach that include evaluation, engineering, education, enforcement, and equity. Ms. Kuzmicki commented that Indian Crest is well situated to have students walk or bike to school. The actual audit was performed in November 2017 and a team was comprised of teachers, parents, planners, law enforcement, public health professionals and other school employees with the goal to empower students with a desire to walk to school and make sure that parents feel comfortable with their students walking to school.

Ms. Leavitt-Gruberger discussed the educational lessons on pedestrian and bicycle safety, and the benefit of exercise. The participation in National Walk to School Day was observed as well as the distribution of bike helmets to interested students. Ms. Kuzmicki reviewed some of the results of the audit noting that a written report and a summary detailing all data will be forthcoming. Ms. Kuzmicki commented that a written report will help with any grant writing processes that will improve the existing environment. Some specifics of walking routes were discussed along with proposed improvements.

Mr. Keith thanked Ms. Kuzmicki and Ms. Leavitt-Gruberger for the presentation and asked about the percentage of the population that is eligible to walk to Indian Crest. Mr. Braccio asked who will bear the responsibility of the improvements. Dr. Gallagher responded that the majority of the proposed improvements will be the responsibility of local municipalities and that the walk audit essentially supports municipalities grant writing applications.

Mrs. Flisak praised the value of the survey as both a school and community asset. Dr. Gallagher noted that there are plans to perform the same audit at other schools.

Mrs. Scheuren commented on the value of the audit and inquired about local municipalities incentives to participate. Dr. Gallagher responded that the local municipalities all have past experience in the grant writing application process and awards.

2.2 Approve 2018-19 School Bus Routes and Driver List

Prior to the discussion of approving bus routes and drivers list, a review of the informational meeting that was held on August 8th (and August 20th) was presented.

Dr. Gallagher reviewed the transportation presentation and Mr. Stone highlighted transportation operations.

Dr. Gallagher remarked on the bus stop changes which include bus stops being moved out of individual developments and consolidated at a main entrance.

A question from the audience asked about the algorithm that calculates bus routes and winter weather for walkers. Dr. Gallagher noted that one of the considerations given during inclement weather are our walking students. Another member of the public asked the employment of crossing guards and Dr. Gallagher responded that municipalities are responsible for hiring crossing guards.

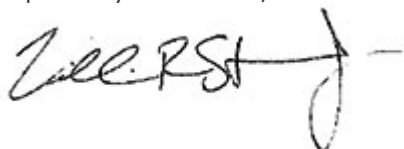
Dr. Gallagher commented that the Operations Committee will continue to review and analyze bus routes and the process will continue as new routing software is implemented.

Mr. Stone asked that bus routes and drivers list be moved forward for Board action and approval. Mr. Keith inquired about the approval process and the extension of any liability to the school district by approving the driver list.

The Operations Committee asked for legal consultation on language prior to approval.

The Operations Committee Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



William R. Stone
Board Secretary

