



Board of School Directors Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August 10, 2022

Generated by Renai Cardillo on Tuesday, August 16, 2022

Board Members In Attendance: Courtney Barbieri, Nick Braccio, Janet Flisak, Tom Kwiatkowski, Andrew Landis, Ken Keith, Stephen Nelson, and Donna Scheuren

Board Members Absent: Bill Brong

Others In Attendance: Brigitte Bagocius, Todd Burns, Frank Gallagher, Christopher Hey, Katie Kennedy-Reilly, Jeff Pammer, Walt Salevsky, Ashley Simpson, Damion Spahr, Michael Taylor, Jennifer Toby, Sam Varano, and Megan Zweiback

1. Education-Personnel Committee

1.1 Instructional Update

Mr. Kwiatkowski called the Education-Personnel meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

It is noted that the original agenda has been adjusted, shifting the Education-Personnel Meeting to be held first.

Dr. Gallagher stated he was glad to be able to be in attendance and thanked the administrative team for their support, during his absence. Dr. Gallagher introduced Director of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Technology, Dr. Kennedy-Reilly and noted the volume of work that has been occurring in the Curriculum Department. Dr. Kennedy-Reilly reviewed a presentation highlighting the Full-Day Kindergarten program and purposeful play. She spoke about curriculum supplies, classroom resources as well as the professional development for full-day kindergarten teachers, including the creation of progress reports.

Supervisor of Curriculum, Mr. Todd Burns, reviewed *Foundations*, a phonics program for third grade. Mr. Burns indicated that Level 3 of the program would build on the basic skills learned in Levels K-2. He indicated that the *Foundations* activities address all five areas of reading (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension). Mr. Burns also spoke about *Geodes*; information-rich books for emerging and developing readers. He noted that the *Geodes* program aligns with the scope and sequence of *Foundations*.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly introduced Indian Valley Middle School Principal, Dr. Jeff Pammer and Guidance Counselor, Ms. Jennifer Toby. Dr. Pammer and Ms. Toby spoke to the curriculum revision that will move the current Guidance course from grade 7 to grade 6. This move will allow the instruction and introduction of strategies and lessons to assist in student transition from elementary to middle school, sooner. The Guidance course consists of lessons that instruct time-management, organization, and learning styles. A social/emotional unit will include stress management lessons, conflict resolution, and emotional management. A Career unit will assist students in identifying the skills and qualities they possess toward future career interests. Students will use PATHWAY manager to document career readiness and strategies for goal-setting and course selection for high school.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly introduced High School Principal Dr. Sam Varano and Technology Education teacher, Ms. Ashley Simpson. Dr. Varano and Ms. Simpson spoke to the revision of the high school courses *Digital Media 1* and *Digital Media 2*. Ms. Simpson shared UBD's (Understanding by Design) for both courses outlining the specific revisions which will add rigor and experience for the students. Ms. Simpson stated that the revisions to each course will enhance student skillsets, reflected in the technological abilities of the software and hardware used in each course.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly thanked the teachers and supervisors who had worked on the curriculum revisions, noting the wide range of accomplishments that were completed this summer.

Mr. Kwiatkowski asked about the enrollment for full day kindergarten and Dr. Gallagher responded that it is currently 392 students, which is in line with normal kindergarten registrations. Mr. Kwiatkowski praised the revisions to the Digital Media courses and asked if a sample of the student work could be shared. Dr. Gallagher suggested a Spotlight video to feature student work.

Mr. Landis asked about grade level tracking and Dr. Kennedy-Reilly stated that there are multiple levels of interim checks and assessments as well as the MAP Growth which measures overall student progress.

Mr. Braccio praised the adjustment of the Guidance course and its earlier offering to students in their middle school career. Mr. Braccio also praised the updates to the Digital Media courses.

2. Technology Committee

2.1 Overview of District Website

A revision to the published agenda moved the Technology Committee as second item for the evening.

Mr. Braccio called the Technology Committee meeting to order at 7:09 P.M.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly introduced Web Developer/Communication Specialist Brigitte Bagocius, and Supervisor of Technology Walt Salevsky.

Ms. Bagocius expressed pride in being able to introduce the launch of the re-designed website. She spoke briefly on the planning, design and development to create a space that will support the school district mission, while maintaining a user-friendly experience. Ms. Bagocius spoke to the improvement of website navigation, including a *Find It Fast* feature and mobile device functionality.

A video was shown giving a preview of the redesigned website.

Mr. Braccio praised the streamlined look and the consistency of information being presented.

Mr. Braccio adjourned the Technology Committee Meeting at 7:22 P.M.

3. Operations Committee

3.1 District Construction Projects Update

In the absence of Mr. Brong, Operations Committee Chairperson, Mr. Braccio called the Operations Meeting to order at 7:34 P.M.

Dr. Gallagher stated that he and Dr. Hey visited the schools this week to review the progress of the projects.

Director of Business Affairs, Mr. Taylor noted that an update will be provided on Indian Crest and Indian Valley Middle Schools and Franconia Elementary School. Mr. Taylor introduced Mr. Spahr, Construction manager for SiteLoQIC. Mr. Spahr reported that the roofing project at Indian Crest will be substantially complete by August 22nd.

He also reviewed the Phase 1 portion of the Franconia Elementary School noting that the abatement and renovation to upper level classrooms had begun and anticipated completion is October 2022. Mr. Spahr shared a color-coded phasing plan reflecting the areas of the building that were under-going renovation, noting that there would be no student access in those areas.

Mr. Spahr indicated that Phase 1 of the Indian Valley Middle School would begin this week. Mr. Taylor stated that entrances to the school would be relocated during construction and explained the security and entrance procedures at the temporary entrances. Mr. Taylor also stated that he and Supervisor of Operations, Mr. Ball attend the bi-weekly construction meetings. Mr. Taylor reiterated that construction scheduling remains a priority to avoid noise and interruptions to classroom instruction.

Mr. Braccio suggested that photos of new entrances be shared to parents. Dr. Gallagher and Dr. Hey noted that the building principals will be including construction updates and notes in their messages to parents. Mrs. Flisak and Mr. Keith also reinforced the importance of communication to parents.

Mr. Keith asked about any spaces that would not be air-conditioned for the start of school and Mr. Taylor responded that none of the occupied spaces would be impacted. Mrs. Scheuren asked about change orders and Mr. Spahr responded that contractor cooperation has been excellent and no change orders have been required. Mr. Landis expressed concern about temporary entrances and monitoring. Mr. Taylor noted that all employees (including contractors) have clearances and all doors and entrances will be monitored.

Mr. Nelson requested a monthly summary of work be reported to the Board.

Mr. Braccio adjourned the Operations Committee Meeting at 7:52 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Taylor, C.P.A.
Board Secretary / Director of Business Affairs