

LAMPETER-STRASBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lampeter, Pennsylvania 17537

Academic Committee Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2020

Virtual Meeting

Mrs. Patricia M. Pontz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Board Members, Mrs. Patricia M. Pontz, Mr. Matthew E. Parido, Mrs. Melissa S. Herr; Mr. David Beiler; Superintendent, Dr. Kevin S. Peart; Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Andrew M. Godfrey; High School Principal, Dr. Benjamin J. Feeney; Community Member, Mrs. Kari Steinbacher.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE CONSENT ITEMS

1. Agriculture Business Management Curriculum Approval

Dr. Godfrey presented new curriculum for the Agriculture Business Management Course approved by the Board in December 2019. The curriculum was reviewed and Dr. Godfrey explained that staff was still in the process of aligning the units to the State and National Agriculture Food and Natural Resources Standards. This alignment would be complete prior to approval by the full Board of Directors. The Committee was supportive of recommending the approval of the curriculum with full alignment by the full Board of Directors at the December 3, 2020, meeting.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. K-12 Instructional Planning Update

Dr. Godfrey provided an update on instructional planning by sharing that elementary parent conferences were held virtually and were successful. Also, Title I parent meetings were held virtually and approximately 50 parents attended the online meetings.

2. HS Course Selection Guide / HS Goals Update

Dr. Feeney presented the proposed 2021-2022 Lampeter-Strasburg High School Course Selection Guide to the Committee. He provided an overview of the graduation requirements as well as reminded the Committee of the new courses that were approved during the 2019-2020 school year which were being offered this year. Dr. Feeney shared that there were no new recommendations for new courses for the 2021-2022 school year and no courses were being recommended for removal from the course guide. Finally, Dr. Feeney shared additional information on how the course selection process would be implemented for the 2021-2022 school year.

3. Feasibility Study Early Childhood Programming

Dr. Godfrey provided an overview of proposed programming for the implementation of an Early Childhood program for students ages three to five. Programming would be a collaboration with Owl Hill Learning Centers based in Lititz, PA, and completely funded through a PA Department of Education Office of Child Development-Pre-K Counts grant. The program would be completely run by Owl Hill Learning Centers utilizing a district classroom(s). Staffing would be by PA State certified early childhood teachers and qualified early childhood teaching assistants which would be employees of Owl Hill.

The Early Childhood program would be a half-day program, servicing up to 40 students to start, 20 attending an a.m. session and 20 attending a p.m. session. The program would be open to only L-S residents who qualify for the program under the state guidelines. There would be no cost to parents for the program and all materials and lunch would be provided as well. Transportation would be the responsibility of the family.

Owl Hill intends to apply for an expansion grant in the spring of 2021 to begin implementing the program at Lampeter Elementary School starting in November 2021. The program would be dependent on grant funding acquired from the State by Owl Hill. The program could easily be expanded should the Board decide to move forward with a new Early Childhood/Kindergarten building.

Dr. Godfrey also provided an overview of current kindergarten programming and answered questions from the committee.

ITEMS FROM THE GROUP

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.