

OAK PARK AND RIVER FOREST HIGH SCHOOL
201 North Scoville Avenue
Oak Park, IL 60302

Policy Evaluation and Goals Committee
December 9, 2014

A Policy Evaluation and Goals Committee meeting was held on December 9, 2014. Dr. Moore called the meeting was called to order at 8:34 p.m. in the Second Floor Library. Committee members present were Dr. Jackie Moore, and Sharon Patchak-Layman. Also present were Dr. Steven T. Isoye, Superintendent; Amy Hill, Director of Assessment and Learning; Philip M. Prale, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; David Ruhland, Director of Human Resources; Sheila Hardin, Faculty Senate Executive Committee Chair; and Gail Kalmerton, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board.

Visitors Matt Kirkpatrick, Science Division Head and Neil Skinkle, Victoria Jiron, and Gabe Rizzo, students.

Strategic Plan

Dr. Isoye spoke about some of the things the Implementation Teams were exploring. Some of the items being explored would not reach the \$25,000 threshold that the Board of Education that would require Board of Education approval so those things might just move forward on their own. Other things, such as looking at how the school day is structured is a bigger picture question. Other things being explored are executive functioning work and tutoring opportunities for next semester and next year.

TTL

Matt Kirkpatrick, introduced Neil Skinkle, Victoria Jiron, and Gabe Rizzo who submitted a petition with signatures of 43 students who were interested in an after-school robotics club at the high school and which would be open to any form of VEX robotics at OPRFHS. At the middle school, 160 students applied for this program and only 40 were accepted. It is part of the Oak Park Educational Foundation. The students believed that this program, modeled after the middle school's club, would be attractive to the incoming middle school students as well as those already at the high school. Not only will it be a multi-racial experience but girls will find this of interest as many are entering the engineering field. Robotics is also not just for those interested in math, science and/or engineering; it incorporates every skill in every aspect of life, problem-solving collaboration and reflection. Students build a robot and they have an engineering booklet with which to work. The cost of the program would initially be about \$25,000, but the annual costs would be far less. This idea was also brought to the TTL Implementation Team. When asked if the PLTB classes had robotics, the response was that those classes are more foundational and that this club would actually be making robotics. It was also noted that the District has a stipend review committee and this club is on its agenda to review.

Further discussion ensued about the middle school programs. The Brooks and Julian programs differ. Julian has 16 mentors and Brooks has only 3. They both have the same funding and the same amount of students. At its core, it is about robotics, design, and overcoming challenges. Mentors should be a desire, not be a requirement of the club. It was the consensus of the

Dr. Isoye noted that from the feedback at the last PEG meeting and Board of Education meeting, it was clear that the Board of Education wanted things now. The Oversight Committee met and that discussion begged a question. A stipend committee already exists, as well as other processes in the building. How do those processes fit into the Strategic Plan? Several Implementation Teams were ready to bring their ideas forward to PEG. A member suggested creating a worksheet that included where the idea started, its status quo, etc. Some people were uncertain about coming to the Board of Education with things that

were only partially vetted. This is more about a conversation and a dialogue. The process may have unintended consequences. One member felt that when students came forward, the Board of Education needs to give them more information or an idea as to what it means to come forward and what then transpires. One member would have appreciated a checklist for what the idea is, the process, the cost, etc. Dr. Isoye explained that the Oversight Committee is the place where things occur, competition exists as to where to vet ideas. While the concerns of oversight might be a barrier, it is a fair way to do things, as the process will get murky as ideas are develop. Another committee member suggested to just note what Team is bringing the idea forward, the nature of the idea, the cost, etc. The incremental resource form will need to be completed to inform the Finance Committee and it marries assessment and budget.

Policies for First Reading

The Policy Committee members recommended that the following policies be moved to the Board of Education for approval of first reading. The explanation for the changes is included below.

| Action and Policy | Explanation |
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| 2:140 Communications to and from the Board | This policy was rewritten to incorporate PA 98-930. When Board members are provided an email, there must be a place on the website for the public to easily find and communicate to them. |
| 2:140E Communications to and from the Board | Exhibit is updated to be aligned with Policy 2:140 |
| 4:110 Transportation | Language of cellular telecommunications device was added to align with statute. |
| 4:120 Food Services | PRESS Update – The definition of school student record is aligned with the state’s administrative code. Our attorney recommended to add a number 5 as noted. |
| 4:150 Facility Management and Building Programs | Legal references updates only |
| 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment | Addition of language about discrimination on the basis of a request for or use of a reasonable accommodation as allowed by the Illinois Human Rights Act as amended in PA 98-1050. |
| 5:220 Substitute Teachers | Per State statute, change certificate to license. |
| 5:250 Leaves of Absence | A new leave was added: leave to serve as election judge. This is amended based on PA 98-691. |
| 6:20 School Year Calendar and Day | Legal references updates only |
| 6:110 Programs for Students at Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping out of School and Graduation Incentives Program | Change LEP to English Language Learners as used in state and legal references update. |
| 6:300 Graduation Requirements | Updating language. Removing PSAE and changing it to State Assessment. Also deleting GED to align with school code in regards to awarding diplomas to Veterans of WWII, the Korean Conflict or the Vietnam Conflict. |
| 7:50 School Admissions and Students Transfers To and From Non-District Schools | Cross reference update. Optional changes about grade level transfer of children of military personnel is not recommended. OPRFHS uses credits to determine grade levels. This is more appropriate for elementary levels. |
| 7:100 Health and Eye Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students | Language added for proof of immunization against meningococcal disease from 12 th grade students as required. Removal of the sunset date in regards to students transferring from out of state. |

Student Discipline Retreat Debrief

Discussion ensued about next steps after the Student Discipline Retreat with students. The minutes of the meeting, the notes from the breakout sessions, and the flip chart notes can be used in determining next steps. A broader report will be brought forward in the future. One member felt that a sequence of activities should come from this committee.

- 1) Debriefing at next Board of Education meeting
- 2) Taking the notes from the debriefing and coupled those with the notes from the retreat itself and put an order to the activities
- 3) Bring forward to the Policy Committee.

The Parent Teacher Advisory Committee will determine the questions that need to be answered over time. Dr. Moore stated that one thing that bubbled to the top at the retreat was having the student voice in preparation for next semester and giving it consideration when moving forward with the Code of Conduct, PTAC, etc. This will be moved to the full Board of Education at its regular December meeting.

Adjournment

At 9:49 p.m., Dr. Moore moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms. Patchak-Layman. A voice vote resulted in motion carried.

Submitted by Gail Kalmerton
Clerk of the Board