



CURRICULUM COUNCIL MEETING

11/7/2016 [4:00PM-5:00PM] @ District Office Board Room

- CURRICULUM COUNCIL MEETING -

Roll Call

Present: John Abel, Jackie Castleman, Derek Dietz, R Michael Dotts, Peter Ebert, Missy Kunder, Traci Landry, Nancy Kiscadden, Kyle Moll, Jennifer Mysel, Dale Reimann, Kathy Sicher, Martha Strickland, Kimberly Vondran, Stacy Winslow

Absent: Anna Gawel, Thomas Keefer, Kim Kulina, Renee Owens, Lindsey Schmidt, Brian Shiflett, Lisa Sviben Miller, Dave Sweigert, Erick Valentin, Ron Wales, David Yingst

1. Call To Order

2. Review of Summary Notes - 10-11-2016

3. Informational

a. PDE Curriculum Deficiencies Policy

Professional employees, commissioned officers, parents of students, and other residents of a school entity may submit complaints containing allegations of curriculum deficiencies to the Pennsylvania Department of Education's (PDE) Secretary of Education. In that regard, PDE has developed a policy for accepting and responding to allegations of curriculum deficiencies in the commonwealth's public schools. This newly implemented policy, as well as the related complaint form is available on PDE's Allegations of Curriculum Deficiencies webpage.

[Curriculum Deficiencies](#)

Minutes

Dr. Winslow discussed the new PDE Curriculum Deficiency Policy. She mentioned that if anyone would have a complaint, they would contact Dr. Winslow, principals, teachers, etc. Mrs. Sicher explained that our district has sub committees with open meetings so if there were any issues, the community could attend a meeting rather than go directly to the PDE form.

b. COCOA Class - Dr. Martha Strickland

Minutes

Dr. Winslow gave a short overview of COCOA Course for sixth grade. This was

implemented last year and is a transition course and really focuses a lot on social skills that we saw a need for students to be successful. It is a marking period course all sixth graders go through it throughout the year. Dr. Strickland, Dr. Pedersen, Interns, and grad students have been collecting data and working on a study for the COCOA course to track its effectiveness.

Dr. Strickland mentioned that this is preliminary analysis and also preliminary data and unfortunately we were not able to collect quantitative work just focus groups. But we did look at the engagement of the sixth graders and the sociaemotioal learning which was the main objective of the COCOA class. Interesting themes came out of these focus groups. One theme is a sense of belonging and is very much embedded in the friends and family members. Students talked a lot about happiness, but more importantly making others happy to make themselves happy. They talked a lot about intervening to make other people happy and primarily with talk and making themselves present. The implications that came out were thinking about ways we encourage a place for talk and places for students to hang out.

An interesting finding across the focus groups was the mention of "food" and "the unexpected" and were notably about being positive in school.

Next steps: Dr. Strickland has a new grad assistant and will be analyzing by constructs of social and emotional learning.

c. iNacol Presentation

[iNacol Presentation](#)

Minutes

A presentation was made by Jackie Castleman, Laurie Wade, Traci Landry and Kristen Manari on their iNacol (International Association of Online Learning) conference to San Antonio, Texas. This trip was funded by a grant that was awarded to DTSD by the CAIU Elementary Blended Learning Grant (amount used \$12,000) and the district only needed to pay out \$800. We did team with CAIU and presented a workshop on HS Professional Learning and they covered a large portion of the high School Team going. We were able to take three teachers, an instructional coach and a group of Admins. The pre-conference group visited Austin Independent School District to observe the impact on what you actually see "the blended learning in action". The group reviewed the attached PowerPoint and were very excited about the future with Blended Learning. Next step: This group applied for a larger grant (\$100,000) to further the exploration of this program through PDE.

d. The Core Appendices

[PDE SAS Core Appendices](#)

Minutes

Dr. Winslow shared the SAS Core Appendices. We have been using this tool very regularly as we further understand the expectations of the Core Standards.

4. New Business

5. Old Business

a. New Course Proposal: Career Literacy

Proposal: Develop a course that would replace Academic Literacy (#112) for

sophomore students in special education who can meet the following criteria: students who are graduating on credits, students needing Keystone Exam proficiency to meet district or state requirements, employment, or community college/technical school pursuit.

Minutes

A motion was made by Kathy Sicher and seconded by Jennifer Mysel to accept the New Course Proposal: Career Literacy for a second read and be sent to the Board for final approval.

b. New Course Proposal: Journalism IV

At present, students are offered three sequential Journalism classes. The first, Journalism I, is available to all grades in the High School. Students who complete all three classes do not presently have a journalism elective available for their senior year if they began the sequence as a freshman. Journalism IV will remedy this.

Additionally, this class will afford the students the opportunity to continue to grow their skills as journalists. The students will propose and execute long-term projects in Journalism IV with guidance from the teacher.

The core skills the students will learn will include:

- Planning and organization, including goal setting
- Longform journalism (articles longer than about 1,000 words)
- Data Journalism (using primary source numbers including gathering raw data to help tell a complete news story)
- Interview techniques
- Videography:
 - Camera set up
 - Lighting
 - Sound
 - Editing

Minutes

A motion was made by Kathy Sicher and seconded by Jennifer Mysel to accept the New Course Proposal: Journalism IV for a second read and be sent to the Board for final approval.

c. New Course Proposal: Technology Education Independent Study

This new technology education course would replace the current Engineering Technology Systems I course. This new course would allow for a restructuring and transformation to take place of the current class, thus allowing for updated 21st Century STEM initiatives to be implemented. This course would consist of a widely accessible curriculum for all students in grades 10-12. Course participants would have the opportunity to implement

previously learned technology knowledge and skills, and to participate in a collaborative approach to learning within the SAS framework for technology education.

Minutes

A motion was made by Kathy Sicher and seconded by Jennifer Mysel to accept the New Course Proposal: Technology Education Independent Study for a second read and be sent to the Board for final approval.

d. Course Removal: Engineering Technology System I

The existing course has been in existence for over 10 years and is in need of replacement due to an antiquated curriculum and software and equipment that is no longer available or replaceable for this course.

Minutes

A motion was made by Kathy Sicher and seconded by Jennifer Mysel to accept the removal of course: Engineering Technology System I for a second read and be sent to the Board for final approval.

6. Public Comment

7. Next Meeting - December 5, 2016

8. Adjournment