

# Academic Committee Meeting Minutes

## September 29, 2022



In attendance: Dr. Ryan Axe, Miss Tracy Fasick, Dr. Ed Frick, Mrs. Amy Beachy, Mr. Steven Bushey, Mr. Mark Reinhardt, Mr. Josh Weitzel, Mrs. Barbara Rule, Mr. Tim Doty, Mrs. Kelly Shenk

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Welcome and Celebrations: Dr. Frick and Tracy Fasick
  - a. Miss Fasick shared the new initiative the Mr. Pyle, Baron Elementary Principal is implementing in his building: 4 Houses, 1 Family
    - i. Pre-K through Grade 4 are part of a house, representing 4 of the 5 attributes of a Difference Maker:
      1. Innovator
      2. Reflective Learner
      3. Critical Thinker
      4. Collaborator
    - ii. As a part of their “house”, those members of the “household” compete against other houses for points. Points are awarded for meeting reading goals, reading steps, and for Baron’s Best tickets, and for receiving badges (K-2). The winning house is celebrated each week.
  - b. Dr. Frick shared an excerpt from an article which ties into the quote at the bottom of these minutes. It is as follows:
    - i. *"Passive schooling creates passive people. If we want people to think, learn, and care about the many dimensions of life, if we want neighbors who accept the responsibility of tending to the world and working to make it a better place, then we need school and curricula that are actually about life and the world ... either we make our schools into vibrant workshops for personal, social, and global transformation, or we must own up to our complicity in perpetuating a superficial, unthinking, and unjust world."* - Wolk S. (2007). Why go to school? Phi Delta Kappan 88: 648–658.

## 2. Seal of Biliteracy: Nate Campbell

- a. This honor is recognized universally nationwide.
  - i. Colleges/Universities will give college credit
  - ii. An asset to employers when considering the candidate holding this distinction
- b. To qualify learners must meet these criteria:
  - i. Proficient in 2 languages (English must be one of the languages)
  - ii. AP students must score a 4 or higher on the English exam
  - iii. Non-AP students must take the AAPPL exam (only a \$20 registration fee)
  - iv. ASL (American Sign Language) is recognized as one of the languages
  - v. ELL students must pass the WIDA to prove proficiency in English
- c. Students can only apply for this honor within 18 months of graduation.
- d. How learners will be awarded their seal is yet to be determined. Some ideas are as follows:
  - i. A reception, celebrating their achievement
  - ii. Recognition by standing at graduation when called to do so
  - iii. Seal placed on diploma and/or official high school transcript
- e. Once board approved, Class of 2023 learners will begin receiving this honor

## 3. Library Book Procedures and Required Reading Lists

- a. PSBA (Pennsylvania School Board Association) has not yet sent the updated Policy 109.
  - i. Manheim Central is taking a proactive approach and is introducing a way for parents to opt in to log in and view the reading materials their learner is checking out of the library through Destiny. If parents are opposed to the selection, the learner will be given the opportunity to replace the book with a more suitable title. Information will be sent to parents to opt into this service in October.
  - ii. A required reading list will be posted under the Manheim Central Curriculum & Instruction Department website. The list will include required reading and read aloud books in each department K-12.
  - iii. In addition, Ms. Fasick reminded the committee that if at any time a learner brings home a book for reading that the parent does not want the child to read/have, the parent can ask for an alternate selection, and one will be provided.

## 4. Curriculum Cycle Updates: Math, Business, and Guidance

- a. Math K-4 has started work on Learning Progressions and is making great strides. There is a website for those facilitators to view the progress and to make contributions as they update items.
- b. Miss Fasick will be working with Elementary, MS, and HS this year to review curriculum and to select the appropriate materials to go with the learning progressions.
- c. Business Education – due to this department being understaffed, this process will be placed on hold for the time being.
- d. The guidance department members will work with Dr. Flannery, the second half of the year and into the fall semester of next year to continue work on the Chapter 339 Plan.

5. ARP ESSER Requirement: Social and Emotional Learning Professional Development Day for Staff-October 7<sup>th</sup>
  - a. Three strands – Social and Emotional Learning, Trauma Informed Practices, and Wellness for Staff and Students
    - i. One Keynote Session
    - ii. Four 1-hour sessions throughout the day
      1. Facilitators choose one from each strand and then one of their choice for the final session.
  
6. Mr. Weitzel gave an update on the hiring process for this department:
  - a. Less people with Business Education teaching degrees
  - b. 3 candidates have applied for the positions, but none meet our needs. Mr. Esch, recent retiree is filling in for the first marking period.
  - c. Mr. Weitzel and the high school team are working on finding a creative solution to placing nearly 200 students whose schedules will be affected by the dissolution of business offerings until the business facilitator vacancies can be filled.

Adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

“Learning is messy, spontaneous, irregular, non-linear, and complex.”  
-Steve Barkley