

Academic and Personnel Committee of the Board
February 5, 2020 5pm, District Office

Meeting called to order 5:10pm by Mrs. Magnotta.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance: Mr. Dettmar, Mrs. Baxter, Mrs. Magnotta, Dr. Pakzad, Dr. Butler, Dr. Rosenberger, Mrs. Cindy Motter, Mr. Jim Deegan, Ms. Tamara Gary, Mrs. Jaime Vlasaty, Mr. Shawn Welch, Mr. Mike Karabin, Mrs. Sandy Miller, Rachel Alderfer, Jim Colbert, Sarah Thatcher, Pam Dobson, Donna Ellis, Katie Roberts, David Young, Theresa Andrucci, Sam Norwood (parent).

Agenda approved for the meeting this evening, 02/05/2020 motion by Mr. Dettmar and second by Mrs. Baxter.

Minutes from the 01/21/19 meeting were approved – motion by Mr. Dettmar and second by Mrs. Baxter.

Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors: Katie Roberts – requesting a means to assess PA Standards in the proposed Alternative Instruction for PE course.

Agenda:

1. **Alternative Instruction for PE Course** – A revised proposal for this course was shared with the committee. The course and subsequent procedural forms were modeled from another PA school district that went through a process with PDE for approval of the programming. The course would allow for a high school student to participate in an approved activity outside of the school day to help in meeting specific sections of the PA Academic Standards for Physical Education pertaining to physical activity and movement. The forms were currently with the District Solicitor for review in relationship to legal compliance with PDE and the State Board of Education. Questions arose regarding the proposed adult supervisor who attests to the activity by the student (clearances, relationship to student). Additional questions included the need for a highly qualified teacher of record for the course and how many times the 0.5 credit course could be taken. A request was made to consider the allowance for verification of assessment of the standards so that the teacher of record could satisfactorily sign off on awarding credit or not. Mrs. Magnotta suggested a revision of the proposed course description to read the first and last sentence only so that it could move forward for the Program of Studies and be voted upon at the 2/11/20 Board meeting. Mr. Dettmar made the motion for the revision and the committee passed the motion. Mrs. Magnotta stated that details regarding procedure will be worked through in the upcoming weeks.
2. **Parent Communication Policy** – A review of the draft for the proposed parent communication policy was conducted. Dr. Butler went through the draft policy and made edits as they arose. The policy will come back to the next A&P Committee meeting on February 18 for another review. A request was made to have a clean version in addition to the edited version for review.

3. **Computer Science for All Presentation** – Mrs. Pam Dobson presented background information and an update on the current status of work in the Computer Science for All grant. Common language for computer science - how it is defined and what it is/is not in schools. How computer science is shaping the future of education in PA, nationally, and globally was discussed. To date the grant has provided funding for twelve teachers across the three buildings to receive training towards certification in computer science. As part of the grant, this team of teachers in addition to the building administration and district office have worked under the supervision of the IU in developing a multi-year plan to bring computer science into each building in a meaningful and purposeful way. A proposed plan will come to the committee at their first meeting in March.

New Business –

Mr. Sam Norwood spoke to thank the committee, teachers, and administration for their work in all the topics addressed this evening. He asked for consideration that as the parent of a student involved in band, the addition of important computer science education does not cut other programs such as world language or become something that some students cannot accommodate in their schedule.

Mrs. Theresa Andrucci stated that she does not want to see world language be impacted in the middle school as it takes away the strength of the current program and pathway to AP options in the high school.

Mr. Karabin asked if teachers were involved in the planning of the addition of computer science in the buildings. Teachers and admin have been a part of the group and will continue so moving forward.

Dr. Pakzad asked Ms. Gary to consider a discussion on the topic of class rank at a future committee meeting.

Old Business

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm (motion by Mr. Dettmar and second by Mrs. Magnotta).