



Board of School Directors Committee Meetings Minutes Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Generated by Renai Cardillo on Thursday, October 12, 2023

Members present: Nicholas Braccio, William Brong, Janet Flisak, Andrew Landis, Ken Keith, Thomas Kwiatkowski, Stephen Nelson, William Formica

Members absent: Courtney Barbieri

Others present: Frank Ball, Frank Gallagher, Christopher Hey, Katie Kennedy-Reilly, Katie McCoy, Jeff Pammer, Brad Pukay, Alicia Simpson, Michael Taylor, Sam Varano, and Megan Zweiback

1. Education-Personnel Committee

1.1 Middle School Technology Course Revisions

1.2 New High School Technology Courses

Mr. Kwiatkowski called the meeting to order at 6:28 P.M.

Dr. Gallagher stated that the courses being presented this evening were revisions to the middle school technology curriculum and new technology courses for the high school.

Supervisor of Curriculum Mr. Franzen noted that the changes to the courses were to allow for a seamless transition from middle school to high school. Middle school Principal Dr. Pammer thanked the the Board for renovations to the school and the well-equipped TV studio at Indian Valley MS. Middle School Technology teacher Brad Pukay spoke about engaging students in digital technology by offering the revises courses which will introduce students to Adobe Premier and the concepts of PhotoShop.

Director of Curriculum, Dr. Kennedy-Reilly stated that working with the grades 6-12 coordinators more dynamic courses have been created which will offer more opportunities to students at each grade level.

Supervisor of Curriculum Mr. Masin-Moyer introduced High School Principal Dr. Varano and High School Technology teacher Ms. Simpson. Dr. Varano noted that the new high school courses are the results of the outgrowth of the Film Club. As student interest grew, the need for the courses became more evident. Ms. Simpson explained the courses and the methods which students will create, view and reflect on their creations. She also stated that other positions associated with film would be taught, including production and sounds techniques.

Ms. Simpson reviewed the UBD for Filmmaking 1 indicating that students in Filmmaking 2 would be collaborating with Film 1. There will be a focus on developing stories, advancing writing, dialogue and film creation as well as Marketing techniques, creating You Tube content and a final portfolio of work.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly reviewed a slide that depicted the Curriculum Cycle from Proposal and Revisions to Development and Implementation, Adjustments and Revisions, to Monitor and Evaluate. The revisions of the technology courses presented this evening are an example of the cycle in action.

Dr. Kenney-Reilly also reviewed a slide on On-line Assessments indicating that the current educational landscape offers national and state opportunities for on-line testing, noting that approximately 600 students at the high school recently took the PSAT on-line. The Souderton Area SD is currently administering PSSA's and Keystone on-line.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly stated that public feedback has indicated a desire to revise the current Progress Report. A Progress Report Committee has been created and a timeline was reviewed which would implement a revised report during the Summer of 2024.

Dr. Gallagher spoke about the production quality of the High School Red Alert Program. He thanked Ms. Simpson and Mr. Pukay for supporting student enthusiasm in technology.

Mr. Kwiatkowski praised the Curriculum Dept. for the progression of the technology courses. He also noted the data analysis supporting the revisions and complimented the team on their real world applications of these courses for the business world.

Mr. Landis praised the interaction of Film 1 and Film 2 students and its practical applications. Mr. Keith praised the beginner courses at middle school to perpetuate the excitement for high school. Mr. Nelson also reiterated the teaching of technology to students, praising the evaluation tools and the progression of data analysis. Mrs. Flisak inquired about the PSAT on line testing and Dr. Varano reported that it went very smoothly. Mr. Brong noted that both middle schools are equivalent in their technology facilities. Mr. Pukay indicated that field trips from middle school to high school are important to show students what opportunities lie ahead. Mr. Formica praised the team work involved in the courses.

The Committee unanimously agreed to move forward for Board action.

Mr. Kwiatkowski adjourned the Education-Personnel Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

2. Operations Committee

2.1 Approve Oak Ridge Facade Remediation Bid

Mr. Brong called the Operations Committee meeting to order at 7:06 P.M.

He noted one item on the agenda; the brick replacement at Oak Ridge Elementary School.

Dr. Gallagher stated that the information presented this evening is to be reviewed and discussed in anticipation of a decision at next months' Board Action meeting. Dr. Gallagher also stated that site visits to the school would be scheduled giving everyone an opportunity to view the recommended areas of repair. Dr. Gallagher stated that a bid opening was held yesterday and the results proved to be competitive and within the scope of work as designed.

Director of Business Affairs Mr. Taylor stated that three bids had been submitted and upon initial review, Penn Builders will be suggested as the recommended bid. Mr. Taylor reviewed the alternate items and reported the bids as presented. Mr. Taylor noted that Penn Builders is the contractor currently doing the renovation at Indian Valley Middle School, and would be able to mobilize quickly to perform the work at Oak Ridge, if awarded the bid. Mr. Taylor shared a letter of recommendation from GKO Architects recommending Penn Builders to perform the repair of Oak Ridge.

Mr. Braccio questioned the need for a general contractor on what appears to be a dedicated masonry only, project. Mr. Taylor responded that there is associated roof work which the general contractor will be responsible for performing. Those items include any disturbances to exterior lighting and security cameras. Mr. Braccio acknowledged the response and requested an itemized breakdown of services.

Mr. Keith noted that this project has been looked at rather hard over the past year and spoke in favor of the work that Penn Builders is currently performing at Indian Valley Middle School.

Mr. Taylor noted that the school district will have 60 days to accept the bid as submitted.

Mr. Nelson asked about the decisions to recommend individual items and the costs associated with performing alternates in the project. Mr. Taylor responded about the percentage of work that would be replacement versus repair.

Mr. Brong expressed concerns that prevailing wage rates would be applicable based on the scope of work. Mr. Kwiatkowski asked about the timing of the project and Mr. Taylor answered that the project would be phased and there would be no interruption to instruction. Dr. Gallagher did indicate that Summer Camp would be moved from Oak Ridge to another school during the construction.

Mr. Formica asked about the quality of brick that would be installed. Mr. Ball responded that the specs stated Glen-Gery brick to be installed.

Mr. Brong stated that he would like to see a breakdown of costs. A brief discussion occurred about the project and requests for additional information noted.

Mr. Brong adjourned the Operations Committee meeting at 7:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" and last name "Taylor" clearly distinguishable.

Michael Taylor, C.P.A.
Board Secretary / Director of Business Affairs