

LAMPETER-STRASBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lampeter, Pennsylvania 17537

Academic Committee Meeting Minutes

September 3, 2024

Mr. Matthew Parido called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Board Members, Mr. Matthew E. Parido, Mrs. Melissa S. Herr, Mrs. Suzanne S. Knowles, Mrs. Kristin M. Staley, Mrs. Kari A. Steinbacher, Mr. Andrew L. Welk, Mr. Dean E. McComsey; Superintendent, Dr. Kevin S. Peart; Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Andrew M. Godfrey; Community Members, Mrs. Amanda Schlee and Mrs. Kristina Szoke.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE CONSENT ITEMS

1. 2023-2024 L-S High School Senior Survey Results

Dr. Godfrey shared with the Committee the data from the 2023-2024 Senior Survey. Dr. Godfrey stated the data will be reviewed by each high school academic department for 'glows' and 'grows' that will be evaluated by the administration and addressed collaboratively in the building. Dr. Godfrey answered questions and stated he would take comments/suggestions from the board back to the high school principal.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Curriculum Update: Social Studies Grades 6-8

Dr. Godfrey provided an overview of the updated social studies curriculum for grades six through eight. He shared that the curriculum was updated to better align with the state standards as well as to establish new essential questions to promote more critical thinking and application of knowledge vs. regurgitation of facts. Dr. Godfrey also shared the goal of the update was to integrate more writing, specifically, Text Dependent Analysis, into the assessments and projects aligned with specific curricular units. Dr. Godfrey answered questions, and the Committee was comfortable recommending the curriculum be presented to the full Board of Directors for a recommendation of approval at the October 7, 2024, meeting.

2. High School Advisory Program – Lesson Overview

Dr. Godfrey provided the Committee with an overview of the lesson topics for the new High School Advisory Program. These lessons will be presented to students in grades 9, 10, and 11 throughout the year. The overview included the topics shared with the Committee last year for grades 9 and 10, and the addition of new topics to be presented to students in grade 11 this year. Dr. Godfrey also shared these topics would now be used each year, for each prescribed grade level, moving forward.

3. Textbook Request – Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature (Literature & Composition, Essential Voices, Essential Skills, Third Edition)

Dr. Godfrey presented an AP English textbook to the Committee for review. He shared that the book had been through the building and curriculum committee process and will be paid for through the current high school budget. Dr. Godfrey made the book available for review by request. The Committee was supportive of the request, and it will be presented to the full Board of Directors for a recommendation of approval at the October 7, 2024, meeting.

4. Course Weight Change – Mass media

Dr. Godfrey shared that the high school English department, with the support of the principal, were requesting that the weighting of the course Mass Media be changed from a 1.0 to a 1.05. Dr. Godfrey presented that several changes were made to the rigor of the course assignments to align with approval needed from NCAA. As a result of the increased rigor, it is requested the weighting be changed. Dr. Godfrey also shared that the change would be phased in with a specific graduating class to prevent a disruption to current class rankings. Dr. Godfrey answered questions, and the Committee was comfortable recommending the course weight change being presented to the full board of directors for a recommendation of approval at the October 7, 2024, meeting.

5. Contract for Services with IU13 for interim Title III Services

Dr. Godfrey presented a contract for services with IU13 to provide Title III, ESL support to our secondary buildings in the interim while waiting for our new ESL teacher to start in October. Dr. Godfrey explained there are several compliance items that need to be addressed immediately, and that IU13 was able to provide a teacher at an hourly rate to provide interim support. The tasks would be prioritized and only the most urgent would be addressed under this contract to meet state compliance requirements. Dr. Godfrey shared because of the urgency of need, a copy of the contract was already on the agenda for a recommendation of approval at the September 3, 2024, meeting. The Committee was supportive of the contract.

6. 2024-2025 Meeting Topics/Suggestions

Mr. Parido asked if any members had topics for future meetings to share them directly with him for consideration.

7. Policy Updates

- a. 121 Field Trips (AR 0-12)
- b. 122 Extracurricular Activities (AR 0-9)

Dr. Godfrey presented the above policies for review to the Committee. He shared that the Administrative Regulations would be shared with the administrative team for review prior to discussion. There were no comments or questions related to these policies.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.