EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, January 7, 2025
5:30PM
Administration Office
Board Room

Committee Members						Remaining Meeting Dates
	Robert Kern - Chairperson	**X**	**Lori Bali**		**Gene Marks**	*February 3, 2025*
X	**Gary Fedorcha - Co-Chairperson**		**Todd Breiner**		**Sherri Molitoris**	*March 3, 2025*
X	**Chad Christman**	**X**	**Michele Dotta**		**Scott Pyne**	*April 7, 2025*
	Rhonda Frantz	**X**	**Nichole Fink**	**X**	**James Schnyderite**	*May 5, 2025*
X	**Mathias Green**	**X**	**Bryan Geist**	**X**	**Tania Stoker**	*June 2, 2025*
X	**Gale Husack**	**X**	**David Hauser**	**X**	**Dan Williams**	*August 4, 2025*
	Donna Kulp	**X**	**Eric Hill**			*September 2, 2025*
	Natalie Snyder	**X**	**Matthew Link**			*October 6, 2025*
X	**Angela Williams**	**X**	**Christopher Mann**			*November 3, 2025*

Also in attendance: Steve Haas, Jamie Bigley,

Agenda

- Firefly Pilot (Dr. Stoker)
  - What is Firefly? - New, free benchmark and formative tool from PDE, aligned to PA Standards and PSSA/Keystone content.
  - How is it administered? - Online, computer-adaptive, single-session test
  - How does it compare to the CDTs? - CDT is a diagnostic tool primarily for diagnosing student needs over a broad timeframe while Firefly is a benchmark and formative assessment tool used to guide instruction and monitor progress. Firefly provides immediate, actionable insights that can be used for instruction
  - Pilot Year (24-25) - Subjects available in the state: ELA 3-8, Math 3-8, Algebra I, Literature
  - What would a Pilot at NLSD look like? - Originally we weren't going to pilot it this year, but after further discussion with our math educators, we would

like to start small with a MS intervention math group now and expand to HS Algebra I next semester to determine insights the tool provides.
    - Benefits? - Real-time data, flexible, cost-free, aligned to state standards.
    - Goal? - GAin familiarity with the tool's functionality and classroom impact and evaluate for broader future use
- Peters SWPBIS Kindness Initiative (Mr. Schnyderite)
- Amplify CKLA additional purchase (Mr. Schnyderite)
    - Purchase additional classroom kits and licenses for 2 teachers at PES to begin to use this program with students in our special education program.
    - Costs would come from the Director of Educational Technologies, Curriculum and Instruction budget.
    - Board members on committee support item moving to January Board meeting for consideration for approval.
- Amplify ELA Middle School expansion (Mr. Hauser)
    - On November 18, 2024, MS ELA teachers engaged with representatives from Amplify to get an overview of the program for grades 7-8. By the conclusion of the meeting, teachers were very enthusiastic about moving forward with the program.
    - We currently use Amplify CKLA for grades K-5 and Amplify ELA for grade 6. Extending into grades 7-8 would provide a continuum of this program K-8.
    - Costs would come from the Director of Educational Technologies, Curriculum and Instruction budget.
    - Board members on committee support item moving to January Board meeting for consideration for approval.
- Math Program Update (Mrs. Bigley)
    - We are excited about the progress we are making in ELA at the elementary level and would like to turn our focus to math.
    - Mrs. Bigley, Mrs. Fry and Mrs. Bariana, our math department leads, attended a series of professional development workshops hosted by CLIU21. They were excited by the math instructional strategies and curriculum created around these. The curriculum is thoughtfully designed and includes individualized student practice. There is also an emphasis on teacher professional development.
    - At this time, we are looking for guidance from the board to shape our timeline, as we recognize that updating our math program will require a similar investment to that of ELA.
    - Question about where this falls in our curriculum cycle.
        - 21-22 Math curriculum update began
        - 22-23 Math common assessments and practices began
        - 23-24 Math curriculum entered into EdInsight
        - 24-25 Evaluation of this work
        - Comp Plan is currently being updated for 25-28 and 25-26 will focus on math again within the 4 year cycle

- Board members on the committee support administration and faculty exploring possibilities for math program - Innovamat and returning to Education Committee in the future with a proposal.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 3, 2025