

January 27, 2014

School Board Education Committee

Centennial Administration Building Board Room

Minutes

PRESENT:

Committee Members: Mrs. Betty Huf, Mrs. Schrader Lynch, Mr. Mark B. Miller,
Mr. Charles Kleinschmidt

Board Members: Mr. Steve Adams

Staff: Dr. Joyce Mundy, Dr. Jennifer Polinchock, Mrs. Christine Matik, Mr. Dennis Best, Ms. Julie Henrich, Mr. Ryan Mulford, Mrs. Carolyn Fisher, Dr. Michael Devitt, Mrs. Paula Voshell, Mrs. Cathy Perkins

Community: Mr. Robert Shaffer, Peggy Anne Cammarota, Emily Cohen, Ann Walk, Margaret Yane

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. There was an introduction of all in attendance.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of November 25, 2013 by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Schrader Lynch. The motion passed 3-0 to approve the minutes.

College Board Advanced Placement Accounting

Mr. Dennis Best, principal of William Tennent High School, talked briefly about this request. He said that the accounting course does not exist as an AP course now, but the high school is asking for approval to add it as an AP course to the Program of Studies if the College Board adds accounting to their Advanced Placement Curriculum. Mr. Best introduced Mrs. Carolyn Fisher, teacher at WTHS, who provided more details. The Board approved the change to our accounting course four years ago, so Dr. Mundy will sign the form letter as requested.

Student Mentoring Program

Mr. Dennis Best gave a brief introduction and asked Dr. Mike Devitt, Assistant Principal at Davis Elementary School, to provide additional information about the student mentors. Dr. Devitt explained how the mentors come from the high school to work with students at Davis for 45 minutes at the end of the elementary school day. The high school students remain at Davis for an additional hour to mentor Davis students after school. During this time the mentors work with the students on academics that the classroom teacher has identified as needing reinforcement. The high school student mentors have been

provided with instruction by Davis classroom teachers in Rigby for language arts and EveryDay Math.

Mrs. Paula Voshell, principal at Davis Elementary School, mentioned the high school students have also volunteered at other Home & School events that were held at Davis this year.

2014-2015 WTHS Program of Studies

Mr. Dennis Best reviewed prior Board approvals on this topic. He explained the courses that were removed and changes that had been made for 2014-2015. Mr. Miller requested that the Committee members receive a redlined version of the Program of Studies next year so that it is easier to see the changes.

Mr. Robert Shaffer had a question about the use of the 3D printer at the high school. Mr. Best responded and Dr. Polinchock mentioned that this is a topic that will be on the February Education Committee agenda.

A motion was made by Mrs. Schrader Lynch, and seconded by Mr. Miller to move the 2014-15 WTHS Program of Studies to the Board for approval. The motion passed, 3-0.

Program and Professional Development Overview

Dr. Jennifer Polinchock, Director of Teaching and Learning, reviewed where Centennial is now with curriculum, instruction, assessment, and professional development. She said that she and Christy Matik have visited teachers and administrators at their schools. She explained that the answer to “How did we get here?” is due in part to consolidation, PSSA & Keystone testing, and the new PDE Teacher Effectiveness Evaluation System. She also spoke about the change process, understanding change, and structures for initiating a change. We are moving through the change process and we will have informational meetings, an internal task force, and parent and community forums. This will lead to an action committee and a recommending committee. Dr. Polinchock outlined the process during year 1 and year 2.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch asked about the length of the project and also expressed her concern with equality at all three elementary schools. Dr. Polinchock responded.

Mr. Miller asked for periodic updates on the progress of the committees and requested that updates be shared with the full School Board. Mrs. Schrader Lynch clarified that updates should come periodically to the Education Committee for review and then be shared with the School Board.

Middle School Program Update

Dr. Jennifer Polinchock explained that she is providing an update of new information obtained since the November Education Committee meeting. She shared the parent

forum comments on the strengths of the middle school program and the recommendations for the middle school program. Dr. Polinchock met with each team at both middle schools recently and is now planning the formation of an internal task force. There will be an organizational meeting on February 3 at 3:45 p.m. at the Administration Building.

Mr. Miller requested a cross section of the members of the internal task force be present in April when a recommendation is made to the Education Committee.

Dr. Mundy asked Mrs. Huf to identify a Board member who will sit on the internal task force.

Report Card Committee

Mrs. Christine Matik, Supervisor of Curriculum K-12, explained the work of the Report Card Committee and the goals of the internal task force. They envision a report card with skill indicators by the fourth marking period and plan to conduct a limited pilot of the proposed revisions.

Mrs. Huf asked when the Parent Handbook will be available. Mrs. Matik said it would be ready for the pilot group by the fourth marking period.

MAP Pilot

Mrs. Matik explained that MAP is a computer-based assessment that identifies a student's areas of strength and need in reading and math. This helps the teacher to plan their assessment based on skills. We will compare this to Study Island. She explained the goals of the pilot and the process we will follow.

A motion was made by Mrs. Schrader Lynch, seconded by Mr. Miller to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed, 3-0 and the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Dr. Jennifer A. Polinchock
Director of Teaching and Learning