

December 15, 2014

School Board Education Committee

Centennial Administration Building Board Room

**Minutes**

**PRESENT:**

**Committee Members:** Mr. Mark B. Miller, Mrs. Jane Schrader Lynch, Mr. Charles Kleinschmidt

**Staff:** Dr. Jennifer Polinchock, Dr. Joyce Mundy, Ms. Christine Matik, Mr. Michael Donnelly, Dr. Dennis Best, Ms. Julie Henrich, Mr. Travis Bloom, Ms. Shawanna Coles, Mrs. Keely Mahan, Ms. Judith Hengst, Mr. Raymond Kase, Mr. Michael Scancella

**Community:** Ms. Margaret Yaure

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. There was an introduction of all in attendance.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of November 24, 2014 by Mrs. Schrader Lynch, seconded by Mr. Kleinschmidt. The motion passed 3-0 to approve the minutes.

**William Tennent High School 2015-16 Program of Studies**

Dr. Dennis Best, principal of William Tennent High School, requested approval of the William Tennent High School 2015-16 Program of Studies. An explanation of the additions and changes was provided at the last Education Committee meeting.

A motion was made by Mrs. Schrader Lynch, seconded by Mr. Kleinschmidt, to move the Program of Studies to the full School Board for approval. The motion passed, 3-0.

**Willow Dale Elementary School Growth Lab**

Mr. Michael Donnelly, principal of Willow Dale Elementary School, spoke about the progress of The Growth Lab, made possible by a grant from Burpee and Centennial Education Foundation. Mr. Michael Scancella, gifted teacher, explained the many uses of The Growth Lab such as the creation of outdoor gardens, math classes doing a unit on measurement, hands-on experience for the second grade students with the butterflies unit in science, and use of the outdoor space for the Puma 5K Run. They hope to have the project complete by Earth Day in April 2015.

Mr. Miller asked how many children would use it. Mr. Donnelly said all 900 students would be able to use The Growth Lab and he was looking forward to sharing with the other elementary schools.

Mr. Scancelli noted the goal is to have this at all three elementary schools. They are in the process of applying for another Burpee grant for Davis Elementary School.

Mr. Miller asked if there was an agreement needed to be signed for the grant. Dr. Mundy said she would check on this. Mr. Donnelly noted the Centennial Education Foundation is working with him on finalizing the details of the grant.

### **Summer Enrichment Camp 2014**

Ms. Christine Matik, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, spoke about the enrichment camp held last summer. Students were able to extend their learning through a variety of summer enrichment offerings. There were 21 sessions held during the summer with over 200 students attending. Ms. Matik shared a short video on “Little Bits” which showed some of the student created projects. Student, parent, and teacher reactions to the summer enrichment camp were very positive.

### **Proposed Professional Development Calendar 2015-16**

Dr. Jennifer Polinchock, Director of Teaching and Learning, said we are looking for additional professional development days because of all of the initiatives in place in the District.

She explained the professional development schedule for 2014-15 and the proposed schedule for 2015-16 with the addition of Act 80 days. For the Act 80 days, students would attend school in the morning, and the afternoon would be for professional development. Teachers would be working on curriculum and the integration of instructional technology. She noted that our teacher leaders can facilitate some of these sessions. There would be a menu of options for teachers to choose from to meet the needs of all participants.

Dr. Polinchock noted there are two documents to read at home.

A motion was made by Mrs. Schrader Lynch, seconded by Mr. Kleinschmidt, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed, 3-0 and the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Dr. Jennifer A. Polinchock  
Director of Teaching and Learning