

February 23, 2015

School Board Education Committee

Centennial Administration Building Board Room

**Minutes**

**PRESENT:**

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

**Board Members:** Mr. Steve Adams

**Staff:** Dr. Jennifer Polinchock, Dr. Joyce Mundy, Ms. Christine Matik, Mr. Michael Donnelly, Mr. Travis Bloom, Ms. Judith Hengst, Mr. Raymond Kase, Ms. Cathy Perkins, Ms. Allison Kuchler, Ms. Michelle Lockett, Ms. Katie Braun, Mrs. Keely Mahan, Dr. Dennis Best, Mr. Jeff Czekaj, Ms. Elizabeth Crognale

**Community:** Ms. Margaret Yaure, Mr. Robert Shaffer, Mrs. Donna Averell, Mrs. Susan Keppeler, Mr. Keith Keppeler

Before the meeting was called to order, Mrs. Schrader Lynch announced that the last Education Committee meeting had not been formally adjourned. She asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting held on January 20, 2015. A motion was made by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Kleinschmidt to adjourn the January 20, 2015 Education Committee meeting. The motion passed, 3-0.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. There was an introduction of all in attendance.

Mr. Miller attended a meeting of the Discovery Education Center and he shared a power point on some of the highlights from that meeting.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of January 20, 2015 by Mrs. Schrader Lynch, seconded by Mr. Kleinschmidt. The motion passed 3-0 to approve the minutes.

**Project Lead the Way Preliminary Proposal for 2015-16**

Mr. Jeff Czekaj, Business & Computer Applications teacher at William Tennent High School, spoke about Project Lead the Way. He explained this program is designed for students who intend to pursue engineering after graduating from high school. The Principles of Engineering course in the William Tennent High School Program of Studies is the second level course in the sequence of classes that Project Lead the Way has created. It would be a .5 credit course, with the hope to increase it to a 1.0 credit course

in the future. Mr. Czekaj outlined the costs and explained that the cost shown is for two courses.

### **Middle School Course Proposals**

Dr. Jennifer Polinchock, Director of Teaching and Learning, explained the two course proposals for the middle schools. “Lights, Camera, Action: A Primer to Digital Production” would be an elective course for students in grades 7 and 8. “Lifetime Fitness” would also be an elective course for students in grades 7 and 8 and it is running now as a pilot course. The focus is on life-long fitness activities.

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

### **Special Education Comprehensive Plan**

Ms. Judy Hengst, Director of Special Education, explained the process of putting together the Special Education Plan and noted that it must be displayed for the public to review. The Plan needs to be on the website by March 7 and should be approved by the School Board on April 7 so that it can be filed with the state by May 1. She introduced the members of the team who worked on the plan. Three areas of focus by the team were Least Restrictive Environment, Strengths and Highlights, and Behavior Support Services. Ms. Hengst explained the continuing goals for the District and noted the ones that we want to expand.

Mrs. Averell, parent of a student at Klinger, said she feels the parents are valued for their input. She has seen an increase in the flexibility of the District in working with the students and parents.

Ms. Michelle Lockett, special education teacher on special assignment, explained her work on Least Restrictive Environment and transitioning students from approved private schools back to Centennial. She also noted we are working on co-teaching and possibly expanding professional development to classroom assistants.

Ms. Elizabeth Crognale, regular education social studies teacher at Log College Middle School, discussed parent involvement and the benefits of the School Wide Positive Behavior program at the middle schools.

Mr. Chuck Kleinschmidt, Board member, said it was an outstanding experience to be a member of the team and the parents involved were very positive. We can continue to monitor and fine tune the Plan if needed.

Allison Kuchler, special education supervisor, stated that our goal as administrators is to use this Special Education Plan to drive what we are doing in the area of special education for the next three years.

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

### **21st Century Lab Structuring**

Dr. Polinchock explained the recommendation to restructure the vacated contractual position at William Tennent High School. Due to the program needs at the high school, the request is to hire a teacher with a certification in Communications or English to teach two courses in media production. There would be three periods of release time to work on the cable channel programming. In addition, the District would need to reopen the WTHS Program of Studies to add the new course so that students can sign up.

The new position would not include the planetarium duties. The District would look at that at a later time. There is a need for an administrator to facilitate technology integration.

A motion was made by Mrs. Schrader Lynch, seconded by Mr. Kleinschmidt, to move the recommendations for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Lab Restructuring to the full School Board for approval. The motion passed, 3-0.

### **CSSCA Programming Enhancements**

Dr. Dennis Best, principal of William Tennent High School, spoke about the CSSA program. He reminded everyone that CSSCA's purpose is to provide service to students in need of credit recovery and students identified as at-risk. Dr. Best is suggesting the formation of a committee to discuss the future needs of CSSCA and to ensure its continued success.

### **Cable Channel Content**

Dr. Polinchock explained what resources are needed to revitalize the cable channel. The type of software we have now limits our cable channel. When the upgrade is in place, we could provide some feature pieces and more information for parents. A broadcasting schedule should be created to develop equity with programming at the schools. A sample schedule was provided.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch said she is glad we are finally getting on board with this. Mr. Miller would like to see this program accelerated and not wait until September.

Dr. Mundy responded that she asked the Board to allow us until September. We need to hire more personnel, and accelerating this would be too much of a burden on administration.

The next Education Committee meeting is in March.

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 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Dr. Jennifer A. Polinchock  
Director of Teaching and Learning