
CURRICULUM OFFICE

To: Holly Arroyo, Kelly Beuten, Kristine Bushman, Lori DeRaedt, Jeff Gorman, Laurie Kling, Theresa Kolkebeck, Joanne Lund, Kathy McCoy, Cathy Mullahy, Lynette Niequist, Dave Oleson, Donna Roark, Todd Stirn, Nancy Straub, Carie Walter, Rita Weber, Gary Weigand, Cheryl Wessels, Betsy Cappas, Janet Krambeer, Noelle Carani

From: Esther Martin

Subject: Minutes of August 17, 2009

Date: 8/24/09

cc: Jan Harnish, Trent Lange, Dan Schuth, Lloyd Stover, Greg Rabenhorst

MEMBERS PRESENT: Holly Arroyo, Kelly Beuten, Kristine Bushman, Betsy Cappas, Noelle Carani, Lori DeRaedt, Theresa Kolkebeck, Janet Krambeer, Joanne Lund, Kathy McCoy, Cathy Mullahy, Lynette Niequist, Dave Oleson, Donna Roark, Todd Stirn, Carie Walter, Rita Weber, Gary Weigand, Cheryl Wessels

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nancy Straub, Greg Rabenhorst
Meeting began: 3:46 p.m.

1. Everyone was welcomed and asked to introduce themselves since we have a new member that has joined the committee since the last meeting in May.
2. Minutes of May 11, 2009 meeting approved.
3. Gary Weigand announced that he will be stepping down as the School Board CCC member after this meeting. He also stated that there are two board members who would like to sit on the committee. By-laws were read as far as members go and they state 1-school board member sits on the committee. It was stated that the by-laws should not be changed; a lot of thought process went into this. The committee was reminded of how the membership changed last year with Todd and his vote was taken away – don't want the committee to be too top heavy.

The committee was asked to vote on the following options; 1.) to leave by-laws as is, no changes, 2.) allow 2 board members but only 1 votes, and 3.) allow 2 board members that can both vote. It was unanimous, the committee voted with option #2; allow 2 school board members but only one is given voting rights. By-laws will be revised to reflect the change. It was also stated that this would be a 3 year term and that the Board will follow the same application process as other members. Members were reminded of the CCC protocol which is posted on the back of their name cards.

4. Student Assessment Data: District is required (by the state) to move up 7 ½% in status every year to make AYP even though we are experiencing a more diverse population in the district. As a district, we did very well; we did have one sub-group that did not make the gains in Reading. 45 students or more make-up a sub-group. (i.e.: ELL)

CHS: Really good gains in Reading with PSAE, fell short in Math, didn't make AYP; will meet with high school math team.

CMS: Made AYP in every category; has no sub-groups; scored 92% in Reading and 93% in Math.

PKMS: High scores in Reading and Math; one sub-group (IEP) did not make AYP for Reading, scored 55.3%. Overall did well, scored 93% in Reading and 95% in Math.

CT: Made AYP; has no sub-groups. Scored 89% in Reading and 96% in Math.

HBT: Made AYP; scored 84% in Reading and 94% in Math.

LL: Did extremely well; made AYP. Scored 94% in Reading and 98% in Math.

PV: Made AYP; scored 85% in Reading and 91% in Math.

For ELL students, it was asked which school is used to receive the scoring, home or servicing school? It was stated that their home school is used.

5. Local Assessment: These assessments are used for data days; locate problematic areas for early intervention – part of RtI.

Was asked why the Explore Exam (8th grade) was scheduled for the spring; shouldn't it be given in the fall? Would not be beneficial to give it in the spring; takes approximately 3 months to get the scores back from the state. It was agreed that the Explore Exam would be administered in November; would only need one morning to give test.

ISEL – To be administered to new students entering 2nd grade and Tier 3 students.

6. Review Curriculum Cycle: Committee was asked to look over prior to meeting; any errors? Was stated that Social Studies is lagging behind; assessments aren't written yet; should be "A" and is in wrong year. Science – has unfinished business – assessments to complete. Math – on target. Language Arts (Reading) – right on target. Career/Tech. – will be writing assessments. Fine Arts – Art – Validated; Music – Lynette will talk to Terry Bauer; music will need new books, the book being used is old and we are not able to purchase even through used book companies.

Need to look at Music, Social Studies, Science and resources for Career.

Committee was informed that Textbook Loan was cut from state funds this year. Book Rooms have been formed at the elementary levels using Stimulus monies; middle school book rooms will be formed this year.

Textbook Adoption Cycle: Fine Arts and Career Tech. are not listed; need to be added.

7. SAC Reports: Language Arts: Quickly pushed through the writing portion of the curriculum this summer – is completed – getting ready for the read through to make sure it flows. Should be done by the end of September to bring to CCC in October; give feedback in November and school board would officially approve in December. It was stated by a couple committee members that the SAC worked very hard this summer and appreciated the great job they did as a team by working together (K-12).

Spelling & Cursive Writing: This falls underneath the Language Arts "umbrella"; needs to be addressed after read-through. There are many issues that fall under this umbrella and the SAC members would like to come back and address these issues at a later date.

8. Staff Development Calendar: Committee was asked to review the calendar; it gives test dates and School Improvement dates throughout the school year. Agenda is attached for the September 25th School Improvement Day; received a lot of teacher support for that day.
9. SAC Facilitator Meeting: A meeting will be held on Thursday, August 20, 2009; will discuss how Language Arts is the final group in Phase I of the SAC process. A plan will be developed by the facilitators on how we implement and complete the curriculum (refining, not redoing); will be brought back to the CCC next month for tweaking.
10. Other: High school proposals will be presented at the November 2nd meeting; this meeting is solely for that purpose.

It was asked if weighted grading at the high school could be explained. Only AP classes have weighted grades, not honors or regular classes. It was stated that the high school used to weigh the honors classes, but found that students were playing games with course selections to compete for grades. Some high school teachers (by choice) use different grading systems. This has been an argument for years; a student that is in an honors class gets a "B" and another student in a regular class gets an "A"; the student in the regular class would have a better GPA than the honor student. It was decided that this warrants further discussion. Should a sub-committee be formed to look at other districts/history? Committee members were asked to email Esther if they would be interested in being on this sub-committee.

It was also noted that Cathy Mullahy would follow-up with building (elementary) aides to see if anyone needed keyboarding training.

To discuss at next meeting: SAC Facilitator Meeting that was held on 8/20/09.

Next meeting is on September 28, 2009.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.