

**MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2006  
BOARD ROOM  
MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**            **Committee:** Chairperson Nancy Galbraith, Ms. Carol DeLuca, Mr. Robert Moldoff and Dr. Jeffrey Shapiro

**Administration:** Mr. Stanley Piccara, Dr. Constance Bompadre, Mrs. Merle Horowitz, Mrs. Chris Netter, Mrs. Debbie Snell and Mr. Robert Anderson

**Principals:** Dr. Stephen Subers

**Press:** 1

**Audience:** 6

Mrs. Galbraith opened the meeting at 7:40pm, welcomed all in attendance and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes for June Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology Meeting**

Mrs. Galbraith made a motion and seconded by Ms. DeLuca to approve the minutes of the June meeting.

**Informational Items**

• **Resiliency Training**

Dr. Subers stated that a Dr. Jeff Levy, a parent of two students of our district came to him last fall to discuss an interactive program that he developed aimed towards middle school aged children on resiliency.

Dr. Jeff Levy stated that he started a company 2 ½ years ago that deals with on-line education. Dr. Levy gave a video presentation on his resiliency training.

Mr. Moldoff asked if this would be integrated into the routine curriculum or something that the students could access on-line at any time.

Dr. Subers replied that they would like to provide it to every child but in small groups. We will need to purchase more projectors in order to do that. It would not impact their current curriculum.

Dr. Shapiro asked if the model that you are thinking of implementing is something that you have experience with and does it work well.

Dr. Levy stated that he believes that this is going to be a more effective approach that you can take because it is a blended solution so it takes the best of what you can do on-line and the best of what you can do in a live environment.

Mr. Moldoff asked how it is licensed.

Dr. Levy replied that it is licensed per person.

Mrs. Horowitz stated that she is in support of this program and excited to be able to offer this to the children of this district.

Dr. Levy offered everyone on the Board free access to his adult program. It is something that you will benefit from no matter how resilient you are there are things that you will learn and things that you will do better.

- **Summer Curriculum Update**

Dr. Bompadre stated that our foreign language department has met to take a look at the whole K-12 department. They decided to revise the fifth grade program to expose the students to French, German and Latin. It will help better prepare the student as they move onto middle school if they want to continue with the language Spanish or explore another language. They also put together a fifth grade workbook to coincide with the new program.

Dr. Shapiro asked if this modification would replace the cycle course in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Intro to Foreign Languages.

Dr. Bompadre replied that there will still be a cycle course but the content will be different now.

Mr. Piecara replied that the opportunity to fully begin a foreign language study will happen a year earlier for all students.

Mr. Piecara stated that we approved the curriculum cycle for revision and monitoring the curriculum. We had work done in Western Cultures, Non-Western, 20<sup>th</sup> Century, AP U.S. History and Sociology and Psychology, art and music, earth science, biology, chemistry and 6<sup>th</sup> grade science.

Mr. Moldoff asked if the earth science curriculum is being slip screened in and not just teaching the things they need to know for the test.

Mr. Piecara replied yes, it is being slip screened in.

Mr. Piecara stated that the physical education department and Mr. Sanville are looking into a way to revamp the way that they offer physical education at the High School. We are looking at marrying the health requirements that we have with the physical education requirements creating courses that can be offered five days a week.

Dr. Shapiro stated that English and math is not on here at all. Can you speak to what we are doing there or where we are?

Mr. Piecara replied that we had a team of math teachers who worked this summer in aligning Algebra II, Geometry, Algebra III, Trigonometry and putting together a PSSA type notebook that ensures that we incorporate PSSA type problems into our existing curriculum. The English Department met in the spring and the focus has become the writing plan that we have been working on and presented in preliminary format in June. All the different disciplines have been reviewed and will continue to be.

- **Summer Technology Workshops**

Dr. Bompadre stated that in June they explained the summer technology workshops. That was a grassroots effort that came up through the teachers. Robb Anderson, Deb Snell and Chris Netter came up with a schedule and offered some rotating workshops in technology. We had larger classes than we expected. The teachers loved it. We hope to continue to offer these workshops.

Debbie Snell stated that she had the opportunity to offer three workshops this summer and described each workshop. There were roughly 171 teachers who signed up. There were about 12 teachers in each workshop.

Chris Netter stated that it was great getting teachers together in a nice, relaxed atmosphere and letting them collaborate and come up with ideas.

- **Dual Enrollment Update**

Mr. Piccara stated that he is providing the committee with a draft of the Concurrent Enrollment Agreement. I would like to thank Dr. Shapiro and Mrs. Mansky for their work. The students who participate must be a junior or a senior with satisfactory progress toward obtaining graduation requirements and should be basic or above on PSSA test or some other nationally normed test and should be at least in the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile in order to participate. They need to earn at least an 80 in their courses of study at the High School and a 2.0 grade in order to continue in the dual enrollment program.

- **Enrollment Update**

Dr. Bompadre stated that the kindergarten numbers are staying pretty steady with an enrollment of 208. Class sizes are running at about 19-22. Culbertson's enrollment is up about nine students. Loomis' enrollment was down about eight. Russell's enrollment was even with the numbers from June. Worrall's enrollment is down about twelve.

Mr. Piccara stated that the High School has an increase of 54 students with an enrollment number of 1236 students. Paxon Hollow is stable at 863 students for enrollment.

- **Hardware Inventory Disposal**

Mr. Piccara stated that they are looking for authorization to dispose of old hardware to Reclamare, Inc. This is in the technology budget. We need approval to dispose of any property.

Mr. Anderson stated that the equipment going out is past its usefulness. Reclamare is either taking our equipment for free or paying us for it. They are charging us for the monitors and the destruction of any data that resides in those hard drives and the certificate that they were disposed of correctly.

Mr. Piccara stated that he would draft a motion to bring to the Board this month.

The committee agreed.

- **Elementary Curriculum Guide**

Dr. Bompadre stated that she worked with the curriculum office to develop an elementary curriculum guide. We tried to come up with a format that we thought would be friendly for parents. Chris Netter has worked with me this summer on it. We have it available on line. Chris also came up with including in the guide some

quotes from teachers about students to make it more personalized. We would like to get different teachers each year to give us a quote about something.

- **Opening Day Agenda**

Dr. Bompadre stated that August 28<sup>th</sup> will be our welcome back. Part of the day will be building level initiatives and we'll have some specific workshops going on that day. August 30<sup>th</sup> our keynote speaker, Dr. Robert Brooks is coming to talk to the entire district on the power of mindset. August 31<sup>st</sup> will be classroom preparation and team meetings. October 13<sup>th</sup> the focus for that full day in-service will be a writing framework workshop. November 7<sup>th</sup> we are hoping to have someone come in to talk about grading assessment. February 16<sup>th</sup> and May 27<sup>th</sup> are flex days. The teachers that don't flex out will report for building level workshops. June 18<sup>th</sup> is the last teacher day and we will wrap up with team meetings and grade reporting, etc. The early dismissal days are as follows: February 29<sup>th</sup> will be building level workshops set by principals, December 4<sup>th</sup> is curriculum workshops, February 1<sup>st</sup> building level workshops, March 2<sup>nd</sup> will be curriculum level workshops and May 1<sup>st</sup> will be building level workshops.

### **Action Items**

- **To approve the first reading of the following revised school board policy:**
  - **Policy 906 – Public Complaints**

Dr. Bompadre stated that this policy has been revised to be more accommodating to the person who may have a concern. Mark Sereni's office added number 9. They will add the wording "business days" to number 9 of the policy.

Mrs. Galbraith stated that this motion would be brought to the full Board.

- **To approve the second reading of the following revised school board policy:**
  - **Policy 216 – Student Records**

Mr. Piecara stated that all of the concerns that were brought up have been taken care of in the policy.

Mrs. Galbraith stated that this motion would be brought to the full Board.

- **To approve overnight field trips for MNHS Interscholastic athletic teams qualifying for the district/state playoffs that require overnight stays in order to compete.**
  - **This action ensures compliance with Policy 121.1 – Overnight/Foreign Travel**

Mr. Piecara stated that this is the first time we offer the committee a blanket motion. These are copies of what may potentially become field trips.

Mrs. Galbraith stated that this motion would be brought to the full Board.

- **To approve overnight field trips for MNHS athletes who qualify for district/state playoffs and require overnight stays in order to compete.**
  - **This action ensures compliance with Policy 121.1 – Overnight/Foreign Travel**

Mrs. Galbraith stated that this motion would be brought to the full Board.

- **To approve the Concurrent Enrollment Agreement with Delaware County Community College as presented.**
  - **This agreement is required by PDE in order for the district to secure Dual Enrollment Grant Funding for the 2006-2007 school year**

Mr. Piecara stated that the grant has been filed on the timeline that he proposed in June. All paperwork has been submitted to the state in time for our August 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Mrs. Galbraith stated that this motion would be brought to the full Board.

- **Other**

Mrs. Galbraith adjourned the meeting at 9:20pm.

**Respectfully submitted by Heather Welsh, Secretary to the Board.**