

**MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
MEETING
THURSDAY, January 14, 2010
GAUNTLETT CENTER – BOARD ROOM
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Committee: Nancy Galbraith, Dana Kauffman, Kathryn Chandless, John McDevitt

Board: Richard Sokorai, Joseph Rufo, Dave McGinley

Administration: Dr. Constance Bompadre, Chris Lee, Lance Freeman, Mike Dumin, Joseph Driscoll

Press: 0

Audience: 3

1. Call to Order and 2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Galbraith called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said at the Special Board Meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes of November, 2009.

Mrs. Galbraith made a motion to approve the November, 2009 minutes. Mr. McGinley seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the committee.

4. Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Galbraith made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Kauffman. The motion was approved by the committee.

5. Discussion/Informational Items

Technology Update – Mr. Chris Lee

1. Wireless for High School Renovation/Addition project.

Mr. Lee said that upon reviewing the purchase of technology for wireless equipment of the High School, he was able to negotiate down from \$127,000 (approximately) to \$113,215.63. That is approximately a \$14,000 savings. There is a time limit on the offer. There will be no technical support soon for the computers that we have.

Mr. Lee gave the committee a copy of the motion that he would like to present at the next Board Meeting. It reads: to have a motion to approve the purchase of technology wireless equipment for the High School Renovation Project under the PA COSTARS contract 003-32 in the amount of \$113, 215.63.

Mrs. Galbraith thanked Mr. Lee for the effort he has put into this project.

2. Paxon Hollow Middle School desktop/laptop condition and replacement plan

The Technology Department inventoried the computers at Paxon Hollow Middle School. Mr. Lee stated that a large number of computers are at the critical level. There are only 31 computers that can be upgraded to Windows 7 without expense. He said that the Windows XP “license availability” ended June 30, 2008 and that mainstream support ended April 14, 2009. This also includes Microsoft Office 2003. If the district were to call and request technical support, we would have to pay for it.

Mr. McGinley asked if the District has a 5-year lease. Mr. Driscoll responded yes. Mr. Driscoll prefers the leasing of computers because it puts the District on a refresh program.

Mr. Kariouk, a resident, asked Mr. Lee if he is recommending the replacement of the Paxon Hollow computers. Mr. Lee said yes. The situation at Paxon Hollow is more critical than at the High School. Mr. Lee is recommending Hewlett Packard computers.

Announcements

Dr. Bompadre is very proud of the fact that all 4 elementary schools have won an \$1800 Title I Academic Achievement Award for making the AYP target for 07/08 and 08/09 school year. Each year the Division of Federal Programs allocates a portion of the Title I funds to Title 1 schools making AYP for two or more consecutive years. A committee will meet to decide how to spend the money to support the Title I students.

Overview of Strategic Planning

Dr. Bompadre attended a workshop at the DCIU along with Heidi Collazo, Director of Instructional Technology. The software program that organizes the Strategic Plan was being reviewed. Dr. Bompadre provided the committee with a list of committees that have a timeline and due date. She said that even though there is a due date, the reports can be reviewed, analyzed and updated before the actual due date.

Mrs. Galbraith was pleased to see the Strategic Plan as a living document.

Mrs. Kauffman noted that the Keystone Exams became final as of January 9, 2010. She asked about how the information would get out to the public. Dr. Bompadre responded by saying that she will work with Dr. Horowitz, Dr. McFall, and Dr. Subers on how to proceed with this information.

Science Curriculum – Mrs. Sue Mecouch, K-12 Science, Health and PE, Family and Consumer Science Supervisor

Dr. Bompadre shared with the committee that the supervisors have been working closely with Asst. Principal – Chris White on high school course selections. It was a very collaborative effort.

Mrs. Mecouch provided the committee with information about Science Updates for 2009/2010. Those updates include:

- Curriculum Cycle
- PA Standards
- District Initiatives
- Science Initiatives
- Separsi (Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Science Initiative)
- Looking Ahead

One of many important initiatives is the formal Science Lab Report that is being piloted. The Language Arts and Science Departments will work collaboratively to assess student writing samples in the form of lab reports. This year's pilot will provide exemplars for students to use next year. Mrs. Kauffman asked Mrs. Mecouch if she could come back in a few months and let the CIT committee know how the pilot program is progressing. Mrs. Mecouch said that she would be happy to come back.

Dr. Bompadre and Mrs. Mecouch briefly explained to the committee about Separsi. Mrs. Mecouch stated that Separsi has been in existence for 8 years. Marple Newtown has been a member for the past 5 years. Separsi provides an opportunity to collaborate with other science leaders locally and nationally to support a variety of ways to enrich science teaching.

Some of the specific goals are:

- Development and support of best practices in science education
- Sustained professional development in science for teachers and administrators
- Cost-effective and timely refurbishment of science materials

Mrs. Mecouch mentioned that all secondary teachers (6-12) will be trained in assessment. A member of the audience, Mr. Kariouk, asked Mrs. Mecouch what she meant by assessment. She explained that teachers will be trained to use assessment to guide their instruction.

Note: Mrs. Galbraith said that Mr. McDevitt will be going off the CIT Committee and Mr. Rufo will join the committee.

6. Action Items/Motions

Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve the following motions.

- a. To approve the establishment of the Family, Career, Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Club at Paxon Hollow Middle School. The purpose of this club is to develop character, to develop creative and critical thinking and interpersonal communications, as well as, to develop practical knowledge and career preparation. FCCLA is a national program available and active in all states.
- b. To approve the Paxon Hollow Middle School trip to the Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg, PA on January 15, 2010. The 7th and 8th grade students who are participating in the FCCLA Club will attend the Farm Show to learn about consumerism, food preparation and textiles.

The motions were seconded by Mrs. Chandless. Both motions were approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Paine