

**MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, April 8, 2010
GAUNTLETT CENTER BOARD ROOM**

PRESENT: **Committee:** Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mrs. Dana Kauffman,
Mr. Joseph Rufo

Board Member: Mr. Richard Sokorai

Administration: Dr. Merle Horowitz, Dr. Constance Bompadre,
Mr. Chris Lee, Dr. Ray McFall, Ms. Sandra Schaal, Dr. Lara
Munch

Press: 0

Audience: 6

I. Call to Order

Mrs. Galbraith called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m..

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Galbraith led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes of March 2010

The March minutes were approved by the committee.

IV. Approval of Agenda

The agenda, as amended, was approved by the committee.

V. Discussion/Informational Items

a. The Middle School Art Program – Mrs. Dianne Blicke and Mr. John Gilleeny

Mrs. Blicke and Mr. Gilleeny provided the CIT Committee with a handout about the Middle School Art Program that included:

- Philosophy – opportunity for students to creative and develop interpersonal communication and problem-solving skills.
- Mission – provide and encouraging, demanding, and structured learning environment through which students develop creative and team-oriented problem-solving skills.

- Curriculum – provide a curriculum which is broad and experience-oriented in scope but allows students to be personally invested.

Mrs. Blickle and Mr. Gilleeny explained that the Art Program is a Cycle Program that uses a team teaching approach. There are 6 cycles per year, 31/32 days in row. New projects are frequently developed.

A few of the clubs/projects that Mrs. Blickle and Mr. Gilleeny work with are:

- Art Club
- Art Show
- Community Displays
- Mural Club
- Incentive Program
- Art Contests
- School-wide Projects

At the end of the presentation there was a 3 minute video presentation of Life in the Art Room.

b. Textbook Adoption – Ms. Sandra Schaal

Ms. Schaal was enthusiastic about the work teachers have done preparing the textbook adoption list. A copy of the list was given to each Board member.

Ms. Schaal provided a rationale and for textbook purchase and choice:

- Age and condition of textbooks
- Updated scope and sequence
- Need for up-to-date information
- All texts selected meet the standards of the MN Text Adoption Policy

Ms. Schaal also provided a cost breakdown for each text. Most of the teacher resource material is free of charge. However, Teacher's Curriculum Institute (TCI) does not provide free teacher resources. The online material is free of charge.

A Board member asked if there was money in the budget for new texts. Dr. Bompadre said that this was a budgeted expense included in the preliminary budget for 2010-2011. The Board requested that Ms. Schaal list the textbooks by priority.

There was some audience discussion about Honors and AP classes. Some parents said that they prefer having Honors classes and that not every student wants to participate in an Advanced Placement class.

Dr. McFall replied that AP classes have college rigor. AP audits are now done to make sure that AP classes have the appropriate rigor. He said that too many levels often create a staffing and resource problem.

b. Textbook Adoption and World Language Curriculum – Dr. Lara Munch

Dr. Munch provided the committee with a recommendation and cost proposal for the German textbook adoption. Several textbooks were reviewed by German teachers. The textbook program that was selected is called [geni@1](#).

A teacher, Carmen Zagrean, gave many reasons for the selection. The following are just a few of the reasons for choosing [geni@1](#), Langenscheidt Publishing

- Aligned to the National World Language Standards
- Designed by German for non-native German speakers, thus providing completely authentic language and cultural examples
- Meets the Marple Newtown School District standards for textbook approval.

At the present time, there is not German AP. Dr. Munch hopes to have that with the new adoption.

c. World Language Curriculum

Chinese

- Dual Enrollment through Widener University – would like to have 10 students enrolled
- Must be a Junior or Senior with a B average
- Minimum of 3 years of a language

French

Mary Bollinger is involved with the Key Pal Program with a school in France. Students communicated through emails. The students were able to Skype (see and hear each other). Dr. Munch said it was a fantastic experience for everyone involved.

It was also noted that 9 of our students placed in the National French Exam.

Spanish

- Worrall/Culbertson parents interested in before/after school program
- FLES teachers developed a curriculum – have met with Dr. Munch over the last few months
- Success with AP exams – some students scoring 3 and above
- Center for Cultural Interexchange (CCI) – 15 students looking for host families in the Delaware County area
- Dr. Munch currently working on an exchange program for MN students: 3 types are travel, home stay and reciprocal

German

- Have German textbook adopted
- GAP Program has been very successful – 15 students came to the United States in the fall and 3 of our students will be going over to Germany in the summer
- Octoberfest celebration was successful – traditional Bavarian dancers performed for the students

Curriculum Development – Summer 2010

- Time for curriculum development to develop Core Maps
- Revise Grade 6 program (1 or 2 days for curriculum development)

Goals for 2010-2011

- Have Spanish Exchange Program in place for either Spring/Fall 2011
- Work on a French Exchange Program for next year
- Select materials for new French program (Fall 2010) – propose to Board in Spring of 2011
- Present the German II program to Board in Spring of 2011
- Curriculum Connector – work on Core Maps for new German I program

d. Technology Education – Dr. Ray McFall

Dr. McFall said that over the last 2 years there have been many discussions about the direction that Technology Education will be taking. There has been a commitment to revising what the District offers. At the present time, the District offers a project-based curriculum (student gets plans or designs and produces a product). Dr. McFall sees the District offering a more process-oriented curriculum where students work collaboratively to tackle a problem.

During renovations, Wood Shop has been relocated to the Orchestra Room. The ventilation has become a problem. Dust and dirt are getting up into the ducts and setting off the fire alarm. The Wood Shop has been temporarily ventilated.

Wood Shop is being scheduled for next year. However, a Tech Ed course may be offered. If a switch must be made, Dr. McFall will send a letter to parents and students transitioning from the old program to the new program. Schedule changes can be made up to mid July.

e. Calendar Discussion – Dr. Constance Bompadre

Dr. Bompadre presented the draft of the calendar for the 2010-2011 school year. The half-day that was proposed for the last week of October has been moved to October 8, 2010. October 11 will be a full day in-service. Dr. Bompadre is trying to limit the number of half-days.

There has been a great deal of discussion about having evening conferences. A survey was given to teachers. Approximately 51% of teachers were not in favor of evening conferences citing child-care issues and other commitments. Less than 50% of the teachers participated in the survey.

Dr. Horowitz stated that many individuals felt that evening conferences should be part of collective bargaining negotiations and that when the union and district reconvene next January this matter could be discussed.

A Board member would like to see a high level of parent participation at Paxon and the High School for the November conferences. She would like to see data collected or some measurement of participation. Dr. Horowitz will work with principals regarding the organization of conference schedules. Dr. Bompadre feels that the District is moving in the right direction. This is the first time that evening conferences were discussed with teachers.

VI. Motions

The following motions regarding student trips and new textbook adoptions were moved on to the full Board.

- a. To approve the Marple Newtown High School trip to Washington, D.C. on May 20, 2010 from 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM. The students attending this trip are in the 20th Century American History Class and are relating this field trip to the curriculum.
- b. To approve the Marple Newtown High School and Paxon Hollow Middle School Life Skills Students trip to Wilmington Blue Rocks in Wilmington, DE on May 26, 2010 from 9:15 AM to 2:15 PM
- c. To approve the adoption of social studies texts and supplemental materials as listed:
 1. 9th Grade World Civilizations & Cultures II, Honors—Ways of the World Docutext, ISBN 9780312644666, 2011
 2. 10th Grade World Civilizations & Cultures II, and Humanities—World History, Human Legacy, ISBN 9780030937750, 2008
 3. 10th Grade Advanced Placement Modern European History—History of Western Society Since 1300, ISBN, 9780312683214, 2010
 4. 10th Grade Advanced Placement World History—World History, ISBN, 9780495569015, 2010

5. 11th Grade 20th Century American History and American Studies—History Alive! Pursuing American Ideals, ISBN 9781934534519, 2008
6. 11th Grade Advanced Placement United States History—The American Pageant, ISBN 978547166629, 2010
7. 12th Grade Political and Economic Issues—Government Alive! Power, Politics, and You, ISBN 9781934534014, 2009
8. 12th Grade Political and Economic Issues—Econ Alive! The Power to Choose, ISBN 9781934534380, 2010
9. 12th Grade Advanced Placement American Government—American Government, ISBN 9780495802839, 2011
10. 12th Grade Advanced Placement Economics—Foundations of Economics, ISBN 9780132275293, 2007

To approve the adoption of World Language Texts and supplemental materials as listed:

1. Geni@1 A1 Multimedia Student Pack 6 year
ISBN 978-3-468-98616-1
2. Geni@1 A1 Audio CD for textbook
ISBN 978-3-468-47554-2
3. Geni@1 A1 Teacher's Manual
ISBN 978-3-468-47552-8
4. Geni@1 A1 Audio CD for Workbook
ISBN 978-3-468-47556-6
5. Geni@1 A1 Test Book w/CD
ISBN 978-3-468-47558-0
6. Geni@1 A1 DVD
ISBN 978-3-468-47546-7
7. Geni@1 A1 Storytelling Chap. 1-5
No ISBN(Online download)
8. Geni@1 A1 Storytelling Chap. 6-10
No ISBN(Online download)
9. Geni@1 A1 Storytelling Chap. 11-15
No ISBN(Online download)

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Paine