

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, April 21, 2015
GAUNTLETT CENTER BOARD ROOM

PRESENT: **Committee:** Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Mr. Leonard Altieri, And Mr. Matthew Bilker

Board: Mr. A.J. Baker, Mr. Matthew DeNucci, Ms. Kathryn Chandless

Administration: Dr. Merle Horowitz, Dr. Constance Bompadre, Mr. Chris Lee, Dr. Josephine Johnston, Mr. Gregory Puckett, Dr. Steve Subers, Mr. T.J. Gretchen, Ms. Sandra Schaal, Dr. Toni Himes, Dr. Rich Slonaker

I. Call to Order

Mr. Altieri called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Altieri led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

The March, 2015 minutes were approved by the committee.

IV. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by the committee.

V. Discussion/Informational Items

A. Professional Development

- Differentiated Instruction at the High School – *Mr. Gregory Puckett*

Mr. Puckett told the committee that Mr. Grande, speaker and consultant, held trainings with the staff. Mr. Puckett explained that differentiated instruction is a philosophical change for teachers.

Mr. Dave Vosheski, an Algebra teacher, spoke of his experience using differentiated instruction. He said that students became engaged and confident. He used different techniques to arrive at a common goal.

- Differentiated Instruction in MN – *Dr. Constance Bompadre*

Mr. Pete Grande met with the Paxon Hollow Administration, Greg Puckett and Dr. Bompadre. Mr. Grande will spend a ½ day at Paxon Hollow. The focus will be on curriculum management, instruction and assessment. Eventually, the plan is to train the elementary teachers in Differentiated Instruction.

B. Turnitin.com – *Mr. Gregory Puckett*

Mr. Puckett told the committee about Turnitin.com, a web based program for students to submit papers. Dr. Doug Killough, social studies teacher, demonstrated the program where he gave his students a paragraph to write. The program also edits and a rubric can be customized. He and his students found the program easy to navigate.

C. International Relations Speaker Series – *Dr. Douglas Killough & Mr. Gregory Puckett*

Dr. Doug Killough, Social Studies teacher and Model UN sponsor, would like to create a speaker series (The Marple Newtown High School International Relations Speaker Series) to benefit the students of Marple Newtown School District and the community. The series would be informative in nature and not intended as a platform to promote one political view over another. Speakers would participate on a voluntary basis. No admission would be charged. Speakers would use the high school auditorium. Dr. Killough would like permission to seek volunteers for next school year.

D. Special Olympics and Unified Sports - *Mr. Gregory Puckett*

Mr. Puckett asked for a motion to apply for a grant that would allow for the creation of a bocce ball team consisting of regular education students and special education students. There would be 2 teams of 8 students. There would be 2 one hour practices per week with 1 home match. The match would be played in the Cafeteria. District support would consist of busing students.

E. Spring Keystone Exam Schedule – *Mr. Gregory Puckett*

Mr. Puckett explained to the committee the reasoning for 3 delayed opening days. Keystone Exams overlap with AP exams. There is a narrow testing window with 6 testing dates and a Flex Day in the mix. The Board would like to see noted on the district calendar the delayed opening dates.

F. Reading Apprenticeship & Writing Connections – *Dr. Stephen Subers*

Paxon Hollow Middle School was awarded a Reading Apprenticeship Writing Connections grant to improve students' reading, writing, thinking and learning. The majority of the training is over this summer and next summer. The grant pays the cost of substitutes for two days next year. There will be no cost to the district. This grant is cross-curricular and will assist in their school improvement work.

G. Donation from the Phillies – *Dr. Richard Slonaker & Mr. T.J. Gretchen*

The Phillies organization has offered to donate weight lifting equipment to Paxon Hollow Middle School for use by its sports teams and in connection to the 8th grade Health and Physical Education Safety curriculum. All equipment is said to be in very good condition. Dr. Subers has maintenance done each year on equipment.

H. Textbook Adoptions for 2015-2016:

- AP English – *Dr. Toni Himes*

Dr. Himes presented textbook adoptions for AP English and requested 1 class set of Conversations in American Literature & Bedford e-Book for Conversations in American Literature, Bedford, Worth, Freeman Publishers and Everything's An Argument with Readings, Bedford, Worth, Freeman Publishers.

- English 6-12 – *Dr. Toni Himes*

Dr. Himes presented textbook adoptions for 6-8 Collections 2015 and 9-12 Collections 2015. A Language Arts Textbook Committee, comprised of middle and high school teachers began meeting in October, 2014 to review textbooks from 3 different publishers. The committee chose the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections. The textbook meets all ability levels and is on the regular curriculum cycle. The committee also liked the technology piece that comes with the adoption. There is an e-training module for teachers. The company can distribute the teachers' editions before school is out. There would be additional professional development for staff in October.

- AP Modern European History – *Ms. Sandra Schaal*

Ms. Schaal presented a textbook adoption for Western Civilization: Sources, Images and Interpretations. A social studies teacher has requested an additional resource, 1 class set of a 2 volume set, to be used along with the current textbook.

I. Equipment Replacement Request:

- Keyboard Lab at the HS – *Ms. Sandra Schaal*

The Keyboard Lab is 10 years old. There is a request for 32 new keyboards which would be compatible with our district set-up.

J. Software Request:

- Typing Pal – *Dr. Josephine Johnston*

Dr. Johnston told the committee members that there will be a change at the secondary level regarding Keyboarding. Keyboarding will be moved to the elementary level. The move will make students more productive at the secondary and elementary levels. Typing Pal is a user

friendly program with unlimited webinars for teachers. Dr. Johnston will work with principals to determine which grade levels will use the program.

II. Motions

The following motions were moved along to the full Board.

Policies:

- A. Motion to approve the first reading of Policy #307 Student Teachers/Interns.
- B. Motion to approve the first reading of Policy #815.1 Website Use and Linking.

Conferences – Administrative:

- C. Motion to approve Mrs. Lauren Hopkins, Assistant Principal, to attend the 2015 Women’s Caucus Conference in Hershey, PA on May 3-5, 2015. The cost of the conference is \$325.00. The total cost to the district is \$555.00.

Student Trips:

- D. Motion to approve Ms. Brittany Fertman, teacher, Ms. Joelle Hedlund, teacher, Ms. Jackie Jumper, teacher, and Mrs. Holly O’Mahoney, teacher, to travel with the Autistic Support and Life Skills students to the Adventure Aquarium in Camden, NJ on June 2, 2015. There is no cost to the district.
- E. Motion to approve Ms. Tracy Jacobson, counselor, Mr. Mike Winterbottom, teacher, and Mr. Brian Isselmann, teacher to accompany LINK students to travel to SMYMCA Camp on October 23-25, 2015. The cost per pupil is \$125.00. There is no cost to the district.
- F. Motion to approve Mrs. Carolyn Firkser, teacher, to accompany the World Language students to travel to Ecuador on June 23-30, 2016. The cost per pupil is between \$2,723-\$3,023. There is no cost to the district.

Clubs:

- G. Motion to approve the Spanish Club at the PHMS. The purpose of this club is to provide students with the opportunity to increase their knowledge and awareness of the Spanish-speaking world, including language, music, dance, traditions, cuisine, etc. The club advisor is Ms. Marianna Gazzara.

Adoptions:

- H. Motion to approve the adoption of the following textbooks:

English: (Middle School and High School)

- 1. 6-8 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections Hybrid Student Resource Package, 1 Year Print, 6 Year Digital, Grade 6, ISBN 9780544442412

2. 6-8 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections Premium Hybrid Teacher Resource Package print with 6 Year Digital – Grade 6, ISBN 9780544564176
3. 6-8 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections Hybrid Student Resource Package, 1 Year Print, 6 Year Digital – Grade 7, ISBN 9780544442429
4. 6-8 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections Premium Hybrid Teacher Resource Package print with 6 Year Digital – Grade 7, ISBN 9780544564183
5. 6-8 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections Hybrid Student Resource Package, 1 Year Print, 6 Year Digital – Grade 8, ISBN 9780544442436
6. 6-8 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections Premium Hybrid Teacher Resource Package print with 6 Year Digital – Grade 8, ISBN 9780544564190
7. Holt McDougal Literature Teacher Resources, Teacher’s Edition, Grade 6, ISBN 9780547618432
8. Holt McDougal Literature Teacher Resources, Teacher’s Edition, Grade 7, ISBN 9780547618449
9. Holt McDougal Literature Teacher Resources, Teacher’s Edition, Grade 8, ISBN 9780547618456
10. 9-12 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections, Class Set, Student Resource Package Print with 6 Year Digital – Grade 9, ISBN 9780544564480
11. 9-12 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections, Premium Hybrid Teacher Resource Package Print with 6 Year Digital – Grade 9, ISBN 9780544564206
12. 9-12 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections, Class Set, Student Resource Package Print with 6 Year Digital – Grade 10, ISBN 970844564497
13. 9-12 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections, Premium Hybrid Teacher Resource Package Print with 6 Year Digital – Grade 10, ISBN 9780544564213

14. 9-12 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections, Class Set, Student Resource Package Print with 6 Year Digital – Grade 11, ISBN 9780544564527
15. 9-12 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections, Premium Hybrid Teacher Resource Package Print with 6 Year Digital – Grade 11, ISBN 9780544564220
16. 9-12 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections, Class Set, Student Resource Package Print with 6 Year Digital – Grade 12, ISBN 9780544564565
17. 9-12 Collections 2015 & Holt McDougal Teacher Resources, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections, Premium Hybrid Teacher Resource Package Print with 6 Year Digital – Grade 12, ISBN 9780544564237
18. Holt McDougal Literature Teacher Resources, Teacher’s Edition, Grade 9, ISBN 9780547618463
19. Holt McDougal Literature Teacher Resources, Teacher’s Edition, Grade 10, ISBN 9780547618470
20. Holt McDougal Literature Teacher Resources, Teacher’s Edition, Grade 11, American Literature, ISBN 9780547618463
21. Aufses, Robin Dissin, Conversations in American Literature & Bedford e-Book for Conversations in American Literature, (Six Year Access), First Edition, BFW Publisher ISBN 1457695782
22. Lunsford, Andrea, Everything’s An Argument with Readings 6e, High School Version & Bedford e-Book to Go for Everything’s an Argument with Readings, High School Edition, (Six Year Access), Sixth Edition, BFW Publisher ISBN 1457677407

Social Studies: (High School)

23. Dennis Sherman. Western Civilization: Sources, Images and Interpretations (Vol. 1 and 2, packaged set) McGraw Hill, 2011. ISBN 0077898990

Equipment:

- I. Motion to approve the replacement of the Keyboard Lab at the High School.
- J. Motion to approve the Paxon Hollow Middle School computer lease with HP Financial Services in the amount of \$113,641.57 per year for term of five years.

Software:

- K. Motion to approve the adoption of student licenses for Typing Pal Online. This

program is a web-based keyboarding tutor that offers a personalized approach to learning keyboarding skills. The license will allow 1000 – 1499 students to use the program. The cost of the license would be \$1230.00 a year.

Donation:

L. Motion to approve the acceptance of a donation of weight lifting equipment to PHMS from the Phillies organization for use by its sports teams.

M. Motion to approve a software donation from the Paxon Hollow Middle School Band and Orchestra Parents Association. The software is called Smart Music and will be used by the middle school music department.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn M. Paine