

**CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, November 17, 2015
GAUNTLETT CENTER BOARD ROOM**

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

Board: A.J. Baker

Administration: Dr. Carol Cary, Dr. Constance Bompadre, Mr. Chris Lee, Ms. Sandra Schaal, Dr. Josephine Johnston, Mr. Greg Puckett, Mrs. Lauren Hopkins

I. Call to Order

Mr. Altieri called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

The October, 2015 minutes were approved by the committee.

IV. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by the committee.

V. Discussion/Informational Items

A. High School Curriculum Guide – *Mr. Gregory Puckett and Mrs. Lauren Hopkins*

High School administration would like to propose changes to the 2016-2017 Course Selection Guide.

Health and Physical Education – In an effort to reduce the issues the department faces on a daily basis with gym space and class size, the Physical Education Department is proposing 3 new courses that would not meet in the large gym. This should allow the department to keep the numbers down to two physical education classes in the gymnasium at any give time.

The proposed new courses are:

- Circuit Training – Grades 10,11,12
- Yoga – Grades 10,11,12
- Physical Education Senior Leader – Grade 12

English – There is a proposal for one new elective in the English Department. It will replace Reading Olympics, which has not run the last three years due to lack of interest from the students. The proposed replacement is Ancient Greek Literature and Beyond – Grades 9-12.

Mathematics – In order to better support students who have historically struggled in math, Administration is proposing a change to the math sequence at the High School. Administrators would like to change the Direct Instruction Algebra I for ninth grades to a 2-year Algebra I course. The first course, Algebra I, Part A (9th grade) will be taught by a special education teacher and those students who take the first course will go on to the second course, Algebra I, Part B, in the sophomore year. Algebra I, Part B, will be taught by a math teacher, but the special education teacher who teaches Part A, will co-teach in Part B. Both courses would be implemented next year and the students who are currently enrolled in Direct Instruction Algebra I will take Algebra I, Part B. Students will not elect to take this class, but rather will be placed in the class by administrative decision.

Science – The district currently offers only two half-year electives courses in Science, Forensics and Environmental Science. The district would like to expand these offerings in order to better prepare students who are interested in pursuing a science, specifically Biology-related, degree or career after high school. The proposed new course in Human Anatomy and Physiology – Grades 10,11,12.

World Language – In an effort to better prepare students for the AP Exam, Administration is proposing a change in the sequence for the Spanish course of study. The Spanish teachers would like students to take Advanced Spanish Studies before AP Spanish, as they feel students are not as strong in the language as they should be. The proposed new course is Pre-Advanced Placement Spanish – Grades 11,12.

Visual and Performing Arts – There will be a slight change to how Band is scheduled. Instead of scheduling the entire band together, students will choose a section based on the instrument they play. There will be three sections for band: woodwinds, brass, and percussion. If, due to the nature of singleton courses, the appropriate section does not fit in a student's schedule, he or she will be able to take part in a different section. Mr. Massimo could work with each group.

The Art Department sees a need to add a course between Studio Art II and AP Studio Art. They are finding a number of students who enter ninth grade knowing they want to pursue a career in art, so they are taking AP Art as juniors. Some students are not yet ready for AP Art in their junior and those who do take it have nothing to take in senior year. The Art Department would like to propose Studio Art III – Grades 11,12.

Applied Arts (current) – The Administration would like to change the title of this department. Given the nature of the classes offered and the classes that we the district would like to add, we feel that Business and Technology Education is better suited for the department.

B. High School Technology Offerings: A New Path – *Dr. Constance Bompadre, Dr. Josephine Johnston and Mr. Gregory Puckett*

High school Administration would like to reduce the number of Study Halls by changing/adding some new courses. This would give students 21st century skills that they will need to be competitive globally. Administration would like to make changes to the 2016-2017 Course Selection Guide for Business and Technology Education.

Introduction to Software Development – Grades: 9,10,11,12 Semester/0.5 credit
This course will introduce programming techniques and fundamentals by using languages like HTML (Hypertext Markup Language) and Javascript.

Game Development – Grades 10,11,12 Semester/0.5 credit
This course emphasizes software engineering: requirements, design teams, testing and maintenance, documentation, programming and coding, and software design tools.

STEM Innovation & Invention – Robotics – Grades: 10,11,12 Semester/0.5 credit
This course is recommended for those students who enjoy hands-on design challenges and problem solving and/or considering a degree in engineering, design, robotics, or a related field of study. There is a high school Robotics Club, which Dr. Johnston mentioned is very popular with the students.

Computer Systems and Network Fundamentals – Grades 9,10,11,12 Semester/0.5 credit

This course will provide students with an introduction to the core technical skills required to build a sustainable technology career.

There has been a significant rise in STEM related courses. There is a need for a .5 Computer teacher. This is a budgetary issue which will have to be discussed/voted on at the December 7, 2015 Reorganization Meeting. The high school Curriculum Night is scheduled for January 12, 2016.

VI. Motions

The following motions have been moved along to the full Board:

Administrative Conferences:

A. Motion to approve Christopher Lee, Director of Technology and Debbie Snell, Coordinator of Student Information, to attend the PDE Data Summit in Hershey, PA on May 22-25, 2016. The cost of the conference per person is \$300.00. The cost of lodging per person is \$435.00. The total cost to the district is \$1,470.00.

Athletic Conferences:

B. Motion to approve Christopher Gicking, Athletic Director, and the coaching staff to attend the Glazier Clinics in Baltimore, MD on February 5-7, 2016 and in Atlantic

City, NJ on February 26-28, 2016. The cost of the conference for all football coaches is \$439.00 which covers a season pass for all clinics. The total cost to the district is \$439.00.

Teacher Conferences:

- C. Motion to approve Nikki Wagner, teacher and Kerri Confora, teacher to attend the Northeast Conference on the teaching of Foreign Language on February 12-13, 2016 in New York City. The cost of the conference per person is \$175.00. The cost of lodging, double occupancy is \$220.00. The total cost to the district is \$570.00.

Student Trips:

- D. Motion to approve Jen Cipollone, counselor, Tracy Jacobson, counselor and Brian Isselmann, teacher to accompany 200 High School Renaissance Students to travel to Morey's Pier in Wildwood, NJ for a Renaissance Recognition Event on June 2, 2016. The total cost paid by each student is \$50.00. There is no cost to the district.
- E. Motion to approve Tracy Dubs, teacher, to accompany approximately 15 High School World Language Students to travel to France on July 10-18, 2017. The total cost paid by each student is \$3,805.00. There is no cost to the district.

Student Club Trips:

- F. Motion to approve Michael Snow, teacher, to accompany 20-30 High School Ski and Outdoor Club members to travel to Bear Creek Mountain Resort in Macungie, PA on February 11, 2016. The total cost paid by each student is between \$30-\$55.00. There is no cost to the district.

Student Clubs:

- G. Motion to approve the MNHS Anime/Manga Club. The purpose of this club is to provide a social setting for students who have a special interest in the Japanese culture. The club advisor is Stephanie Doran.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Paine

