

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, November 18, 2014
GAUNTLETT CENTER BOARD ROOM

PRESENT: **Committee:** Mrs. Barbara Harvey, Mr. Leonard Altieri, Mrs. Sherry-Lee McAuliffe, Mr. Matthew Bilker

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

Administration: Dr. Merle Horowitz, Dr. Constance Bompadre, Mr. Chris Lee, Mrs. Lauren Hopkins, Ms. Sandra Schaal, Dr. Toni Himes, Dr. Jo Johnston

I. Call to Order

Mr. Altieri called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

The October 21, 2014 minutes were approved by the committee.

IV. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by the committee.

V. Discussion/Informational Items

- A. Astronomy Mural Presentation – *Ms. Kirsten Lipsky and Mr. Oberholtzer (Club Advisor)*

The Vice President of the Astronomy Club, Ms. Kirsten Lipsky, asked the committee if it would be possible to paint murals on the walls leading to the Observatory. They have the resources to do this. The committee would like to see a final design and also asked Ms. Lipsky and Club Advisor, Mr. Oberholtzer, to speak to Mr. Mike Dumin, Facilities Director and to Mr. Greg Puckett, Principal.

- B. Technology Committee Update – *Dr. Constance Bompadre*
- *Special Presentations by Staff Members*

Mr. Altieri inquired about the Bring Your Own Devices to school plan at Paxon Hollow. This has been implemented at the high school and the middle school would like to implement the plan. The Acceptable Use Policy is still in effect. Students would be able to access technology

using their cell phones, etc. Students would be able to use the Guest network to access the Internet. Students without devices could use the laptop carts for group work.

Dr. Bompadre shared a power point with the committee on the Technology Committee goals. Goals were shared with the entire faculty. Teachers were encouraged to try one new program, resource, or technology tool in their classroom. Tablets will be piloted across the district. Dr. Bompadre also shared short and long range goals of the committee.

District teachers and administrators presented topics/subjects at stations in the Professional Development Room using Technology. There were 6 stations entitled Communication & Collaboration, Engagement, Innovation, Evaluation, Modeling and Active Learning. Dr. Bompadre thanked the presenters for their efforts. (see attached)

C. Marple Newtown Centennial Timeline – *Dr. Michael Karpyn*

As part of the 9th grade honors history curriculum, Dr. Karpyn and Mr. Isselmann incorporate a performance assessment in historical thinking and research through the participation in National History Day. This year will be the 100th anniversary of the Marple Newtown High School. Dr. Karpyn and Mr. Isselmann would like to have the students research and design a 100th anniversary timeline, in place of National History Day. Pending district approval, the timeline would become a permanent installation at MNHS. The timeline would tell the story of Marple and Newtown townships and how they evolved from a rural to a suburban community.

A group of students, 4 per group, would research a decade. Dr. Karypn said that the Marple and Newtown Historical Societies have been very helpful. A realistic timeline and budget for the project needs to be determined. Dr. Karpyn would like to unveil the project in May or June, 2015. Committee members asked that when the project is in the design phase, to come and see the Board members again. The space for the timeline would be off the Main Lobby, right side, and be approximately 3 feet by 8 feet.

D. Business/Tech. Ed. Curriculum – *Dr. Josephine Johnston*

Dr. Josephine Johnston shared a curriculum overview of the Business Computer and Information Technology (BCIT) program. Middle and high school students can participate in the Future Business Leaders of America Club, which brings business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs.

Future goals of the BCIT Program include:

- Develop a more rigorous curriculum at the middle school level
 - Explore options to move keyboarding course down to the elementary level
 - Move computer applications course to 6th grade to provide more opportunities in 7th and 8th grade to apply project-based learning and entrepreneurship courses

- Explore possibilities to provide opportunities at the high school level to expose students to courses in Information Technology
- Review and evaluate current high school courses; make any necessary changes to meet student needs

Dr. Josephine Johnston shared a curriculum overview of the Technology Education program. Middle and high school students can participate in clubs and extracurricular activities such as Tiger TV (middle school) and the Robotics and Video Production Club (high school).

Future goals of the Technology Education program include:

- Explore ways to incorporate 3D printing at the middle school level
- Start a competitive robotics team at the middle school level
- Develop new and innovative projects that will utilize the 3D printer and software
- Expand participation in regional, state, and national STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) competitions
- Increase female student participation in Technology Education courses

E. AP & Honors Offerings at High School – *Dr. Constance Bompadre, Mrs. Lauren Hopkins, and Ms. Sandra Schaal*

Mrs. Hopkins shared a power point with the committee. The proposed changes for the 2015-2016 school will begin with the class of 2019. The existing AP & Honors offerings have the highest course offered as weighted. The proposed changes will add 7 points for AP courses and 5 points for Honors courses. For example, if a student earns an 84 in an Honors or Advanced Placement course, the grade of 84 will appear on the report card, but with the addition of the 5 or 7 points, respectively, a score of 89 (Honors) or 91 (AP) will be used in the calculation of class rank. Class rank is calculated at the end of the year.

F. Highlighted Changes to the Course Selection Guide at the High School – *Mrs. Lauren Hopkins*

Mrs. Hopkins presented changes to the 2015-2016 Course Selection Guide. Changes include the following:

Weighting – Honors courses will be weighted with 5 extra points and all Advanced Placement courses will be weighted with 7 extra points.

Health and Physical Education – Strength Training will now be called Strength Training I. Bigger, Faster, Stronger will be called Strength Training II with a prerequisite of Strength Training I. Students will be limited to 2 physical education classes per academic year in order to allow more students to take advantage of the physical education program.

English and Social Studies – Humanities and American Studies, two co-taught classes in English and Social Studies, will drop their Honors designation. They will be listed as college preparatory classes this year. As a result, there will be 2 new courses offered in the Social

Studies Department, both at the Honors level: World Civilization and Cultures II and 20th Century America.

Mathematics – Honors Algebra I will no longer be offered. Geometry Support will no longer be offered. The reason for this is that the Algebra I Keystone exam is the biggest hurdle for most struggling math students. The hope is that both 10th and 11th grade students will take the Algebra I Keystone Support class in the fall semester. The full year Statistics course will be designated as an Honors course. This change will be because the teacher believes the rigor of the course warrants Honors credit.

Science – The Science Department is requiring Honors Physics as a prerequisite for AP Physics I. The AP Physics course is not a repeat of the Honors course; but includes many more concepts and a greater level of mathematical analysis.

G. Presentation of Senior Mural – *Mrs. Lauren Hopkins*

Mrs. Lauren Hopkins provided the committee with a copy of the Senior Mural, the project has already been approved by the Board. The mural will be 8 feet high and 14 feet wide, located on the wall by the Cafeteria.

H. Tobacco Use Policy – *Dr. Constance Bompadre*

There was a change in the Tobacco Use Policy, #222, to include electronic cigarettes. Dr. Bompadre provided the committee with the policy, highlighting the change.

VI. Motions

The following motions were moved along to the full Board.

- A. Motion to approve the second reading of the revised Graduation Policy #217.
- B. Motion to approve the first reading of the revised Tobacco Use Policy #222.
- C. Motion to approve Mrs. Beth Cope, Online Learning Coordinator, to attend the PA Association for Supervision & Curriculum (PASCD) Conference in Hershey, PA on November 23-24, 2014. The total cost to the district is \$506.59.
- D. Motion to approve Mr. Gregory Puckett, Principal, to attend the Standards Aligned System (SAS) Conference in Hershey, PA on December 7-9, 2014. The total cost is covered by the Governors of Excellence Grant.
- E. Motion to approve Mr. Steven Smilk, Teacher, to attend the Standards Aligned System (SAS) Conference in Hershey, PA on December 7-9, 2014. The total cost is covered by the Governors of Excellence Grant.

- F. Motion to approve Mr. Dennis Reardon, Assistant Principal, to attend the Standards Aligned System (SAS) Conference in Hershey, PA on December 7- 9, 2014. The total cost is covered by the Governors of Excellence Grant.
- G. Motion to approve Mr. Doug Killough, teacher, to accompany the Model United Nations Club to attend a Model U.N. Conference in Hershey, PA on January 9-11, 2015. The total cost per student is \$300.00. There is no cost to the district.
- H. Motion to approve Mr. Gregory Puckett, Principal, to attend the National Association of Secondary Principals (NASSP) Ignite 15 Conference in San Diego, CA on February 18-22, 2015. The total cost to the district is \$1,770.00.
- I. Motion to approve Mr. Steven Resnick, Wrestling Coach, to accompany the HS Wrestling Team to a meet at Penn Manor High School in Millersville, PA on December 12-13, 2014. The cost of the trip is paid by the athlete's activity fee. There is no cost to the district.
- J. Motion to approve Mr. Steven Resnick, Wrestling Coach, to accompany the HS Wrestling Team to a meet at New Oxford High School in New Oxford, PA on January 23-24, 2015. The cost of the trip is paid by the athlete's activity fee. There is no cost to the district.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn M. Paine