

**CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY
COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Administration Building

Board Room

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

Board: Dr. Tina Kane

Administration: Dr. Constance Bompadre, Dr. Dorie Pitone, Mr. Christopher Oakes, Mr. Matthew Flood, Mr. Dennis Reardon, Mr. John Beltrante, Ms. Christa Palladino, Mr. Michael Thomas

I. Call to Order

Mr. Altieri called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

The September 2019 minutes were approved by the committee.

IV. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

V. Discussion/Informational Items

A. High School Counseling Department Restructure Plan – Mr. John Beltrante and High School Counselors

Mr. Beltrante and the high school counselors presented on the proposed restructuring plan for the Guidance Center at the high school. There have been significant changes both academically and socially in the student population over the past ten years. Restructuring the guidance department will provide a stronger front-line role for students with academic, social and emotional issues. The plan includes having a College and Career Access Center which will include three counselors who will focus on student academic needs, and a Guidance Office that will include two counselors who will provide guidance services on social and emotional needs. Each student will be assigned an academic guidance counselor and a school counselor. This type of plan would allow our district to be proactive rather than reactive in services. The plan transition is anticipated for May 2020. Professional development would be provided to the high school faculty and staff beginning in January 2020. The counseling staff was introduced, and Dr. Kane commented that she has worked closely with this counseling staff. She said they are strong advocates for their students and provide invaluable contributions. She believes this plan will give students the encouragement to thrive in a discrete manner. Mr. Altieri and Mr. Bilker addressed a few questions and thanked the counseling staff for their contributions.

B. Homework Policy and Procedures – Mr. Matthew Flood and Mr. Dennis Reardon

Mr. Flood and Mr. Reardon presented on the Homework Policy and Procedures Committee which was designed to update the current homework policy. Homework is the extension of the learning process requiring the use of a student's time beyond the class instructional period. This home study should be directly or indirectly related to the student's interests, needs and abilities. The updated policy will enable homework to provide feedback to the teacher for formative assessment purposes. The homework policy requires homework assignments that are targeted and differentiated at a level to provide challenge to the student and make homework purposeful. Teachers will use feedback to help plan the next day's lesson. A motion was made to approve the first reading of the policy and waive a second reading. Surveys were given to parents, teachers and students at the end of last school year and findings were shared with the principals to share with their staff. The essence of this update in the homework policy is to ensure the most valuable use of everyone's time.

There was some discussion on homework variation at the different elementary schools. This will be brought back for discussion at the Elementary District Representative Meeting.

C. Ready to Learn Block Grant – Dr. Dorie Martin-Pitone

Dr. Pitone reported that the ELA Department will continue to work with DCIU in professional development opportunities with the Ready to Learn Block Grant for the upcoming school year.

Motion Discussion

There was discussion on the change of location for the Marple Newtown High School Commencement this coming year which will be moved to Villanova University. Dr. Kane commented on a few reasons for moving the location including the gridlock traffic to and from commencement to Neuman University. Last year, our commencement had up to 175 people standing for the ceremony. Villanova University is able to accommodate more guests. The closer location and convenience of post-commencement dinner locations were also considered in the decision.

All motions were approved and will be moved along to the full Board.

October 2019 CIT Motions

Policy:

- A. Motion to approve the first reading of the review of Homework Policy #130 and waive the second reading.**

Contract:

- B. Motion to approve the contract between Villanova University and Marple Newtown School District for the graduation ceremony on June 11, 2020. The total estimated cost is \$16,242.00**

Administrative Trips:

- C. Motion to approve Mrs. Teri Werner, Child Accounting Clerk, to attend the Attendance and Child Accounting Professional Association (ACAPA) Conference in Hershey, Pennsylvania on November 14-15, 2019. The cost of transportation is \$58.00. The cost of lodging is \$285.00. The cost of the conference is \$70.00. The total cost to the district is \$413.00.**
- D. Motion to approve Mr. Barry Williams, Director of Safety, to attend the Threat Assessment Training at Pennsylvania State University in State College, Pennsylvania on November 18-19, 2019. The cost of transportation is \$207.64. The cost of lodging is \$107.42. There is no cost for the training. The total cost to the district is \$360.00 including food and tolls.**
- E. Motion to approve Dr. Dorie Martin-Pitone, Director of Teaching and Learning, to attend the Pennsylvania Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (PASCD) in Hershey, Pennsylvania on November 24-26, 2019. Dr. Martin-Pitone is on the executive board and the local region president. The cost of transportation is \$84.68. The cost of lodging is \$321.90. The cost of the conference is \$204.00. The total cost to the district is \$610.58.**
- F. Motion to approve Mr. Matthew Oberecker, Supervisor, to attend the Pennsylvania Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (PASCD) in Hershey, Pennsylvania on November 25-26, 2019. Mr. Oberecker will be presenting at the conference. The cost of transportation is \$84.68. The cost of lodging is \$160.95. The cost of the conference is \$269.00. The total cost to the district is \$514.63.**
- G. Motion to approve Mrs. Emily Lovitz, Teacher, to attend the Pennsylvania Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (PASCD) in Hershey, Pennsylvania on November 25-26, 2019. Mrs. Lovitz will be presenting at the conference. The cost of transportation is \$84.68. The cost of lodging is \$160.95. The cost of the conference is \$269.00. The total cost to the district is \$514.63.**
- H. Motion to approve Mrs. Allison Hostutler, Teacher, to attend the Pennsylvania Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (PASCD) in Hershey, Pennsylvania on November 24-26, 2019. Mrs. Hostutler will be presenting at the conference. The cost of transportation is \$84.68. The cost of lodging is \$321.90. The cost of the conference is \$269.00. The total cost to the district is \$675.58.**
- I. Motion to approve Dr. Tina Kane, Superintendent, Mr. John Beltrante, Principal, and Mrs. Liz Landes, Teacher, to attend the SAS Institute in Hershey, Pennsylvania on December 8-9, 2019. Mrs. Landes is being recognized at the conference as a recipient of the Milken Educator Award. There is no cost for the conference or lodging. The cost of transportation is \$119.12 each for John and Liz. The total cost to the district is \$238.24.**
- J. Motion to approve Mrs. Catalina Ottinger-Ovens, School Psychologist, to attend the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) Annual Convention in Baltimore, Maryland on February 18-21, 2020. The cost of transportation is \$50.00 paid by Catalina. The cost of lodging is \$600.00 paid by Catalina. The cost of the conference is \$259.00. The total cost to the district is \$259.00.**

- K. Motion to approve Mr. Christopher Gicking, Coach and the Assistant Coaches of the Marple Newtown High School Football Team to attend the Glazier Clinics in Baltimore, Maryland on February 7-9, 2020 and Atlantic City, New Jersey on February 20-22, 2020. The cost of transportation is \$450.00 paid by the coaches. The cost of lodging is \$514.00 per person paid by the coaches. The cost of the workshop is \$499.00. The total cost to the district is \$499.00.**

Athletic Trip:

- L. Motion to approve Ms. Kimberly Foster, Coach, to accompany the High School Cheerleaders to travel to Garden City, New Jersey on December 8, 2019 for the UCA National Qualifier. The cost of transportation is \$73.50 per student paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$37.00 per student paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.**

Student Club Trips:

- M. Motion to approve Mr. Michael Snow, Teacher, to accompany the Ski and Outdoor Club students to travel to Albrightsville, Pennsylvania on December 7, 2019. The total cost of transportation is \$25.00 per student paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$50.00 per student paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.**
- N. Motion to approve Dr. Douglas Killough, Teacher, to accompany forty five National Honor Society students to travel to Washington, District of Columbia on December 18, 2019 to visit monuments and memorials. The cost of transportation is \$50.00 per student paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$50.00 per student paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.**
- O. Motion to approve Mr. Michael Snow, Teacher, to accompany the Ski and Outdoor Club students to travel to Tannersville, Pennsylvania on January 4, 2020. The total cost of transportation is \$25.00 per student paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$50.00 per student paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.**
- P. Motion to approve Mr. Michael Snow, Teacher, to accompany the Ski and Outdoor Club students to travel to Killington, Vermont on January 10-12, 2020. The cost of transportation is \$150.00 per student paid by the students. The cost of the activity and lodging is \$400.00 per student paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.**
- Q. Motion to approve Mr. Michael Snow, Teacher, to accompany the Ski and Outdoor Club students to travel to Macungie, Pennsylvania on January 17, 2020. The total cost of transportation is \$25.00 per student paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$50.00 per student paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.**
- R. Motion to approve Mr. Michael Snow, Teacher, to accompany the Ski and Outdoor Club students to travel to Macungie, Pennsylvania on February 7, 2020. The total cost of transportation is \$25.00 per student paid by the students. The cost of the activity is \$50.00 per student paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.**

Clubs:

- S. Motion to approve the Film Club at Marple Newtown High School. The purpose of this club is to show students the process of film making and to be able to teach film work and editing for future classes and college. The club advisor is Mrs. Jessica Protesto.**
- T. Motion to approve the MN Codes Club at Marple Newtown High School. The purpose of this club is to create an atmosphere in which students can come in and develop their passion and interests towards computer science and software development. The club advisor is Ms. Shannon Walsh.**

Donation:

- U. Motion to approve the High School PTO Donation of one Halsey Taylor HydroBoost Bottle Filling Station, model #HTHB-HAC8BLPV-WF at a cost of \$1445.50. This will be purchased from DN Supply Company and installed in the high school music area.**

Public Comment

A parent questioned why the gifted testing was postponed. Dr. Bompadre reported that there is a new series of the test which recommends giving a practice test. The testing will be moved from October to November. The practice test will take place approximately one week prior to the gifted test.

A parent thanked Dr. Kane for their recent discussion on Instructional Technology, including NearPod, ClipGrade and Schoology. He said he would like to see a plan in place on how the technology will be incorporated into the district.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Vannicolo
Curriculum Secretary