# MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE THURSDAY, November 8, 2012 GAUNTLETT CENTER BOARD ROOM

**PRESENT**: Committee: Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mr. Robert Sack, Mrs. Sherry Lee

McAuliffe

**Administration:** Dr. Merle Horowitz, Dr. Constance Bompadre

#### 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

The October 11, 2012 minutes were approved by the committee.

# IV. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by the committee.

#### V. Discussion/Informational Items

# A. Keystone Exams – Dr. Connie Bompadre & Dr. Ray McFall

Dr. Bompadre provided the committee with a copy of the proposed Keystone Exam schedule for the High School. Testing students would arrive at the normal starting time of 7:40 a.m. Non-testing students would begin their day at 11:00 a.m. The transportation department would run two routes that morning for the high school students. The testing schedule would be as follows:

December 5, 2012 Literature Exam
December 11, 2012 Biology Exam
January 9, 2013 Algebra I Exam

Two motions were proposed:

- 1. Students at the high school, who are not taking a Keystone exam during the winter session of the 2012-2013 school year, would follow a late start schedule on the following dates: December 5<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and January 9<sup>th</sup>.
- 2. Since the high school students will no longer be taking the PSSA, the 3 half days in April, the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup>, would now become full days for high school only.

The calendar would have to be changed.

# B. Graduation Requirement – Dr. Connie Bompadre

# 1. Existing for Proficiency on PSSA

The original recommendation for PSSA reads:

Students are required to attain proficiency, as defined by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on the PSSA exams. Current interpretation would be Proficient or higher on Math and Reading. Students who do not achieve a score of Proficient or higher will participate in PLATO remediation in the spring.

# 2. Proposed for Keystone Exams

The new recommendation for Keystone Exams would be:

Students are required to attain proficiency, as defined by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on the Keystone exams. Current interpretation would be Proficient or higher on the Algebra I and Literature Keystone exams. Students who do not eventually achieve a score of Proficient or higher will participate in a district based remediation program prior to graduation. *Any policy developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education regarding the Keystone exams and graduation requirements will supersede the district policy.* 

# C. Paperless Documents and Repository – Mr. Chris Lee

Mr. Lee will make his report at the January CIT meeting.

### D. Junior Achievement in a Day – Dr. Connie Bompadre

Dr. Bompadre went to Russell School to observe the Junior Achievement in a Day and found the program to be very successful. Trained volunteers from SAP Industries went to each second grade classroom in all 4 elementary schools to teach the units of Junior Achievement's program in an intensive one-day effort. All second graders learned about "Our Community." They had a chance to see how money moves through a community, creating jobs and generating tax proceeds that pay for schools, parks, and streets. The program supported the second grade *Social Studies Alive! Our Community* curriculum with extra economic lessons. Teachers were very enthusiastic about Junior Achievement in a Day. Ms. Sandy Schaal helped to organize this day for MNSD.

#### E. Applications for iPads – Dr. Connie Bompadre

Dr. Bompadre reached out to the Delaware County IU for information on iPad applications and websites. The IU provided a list of free apps for grades K-6 and two websites. One of the websites, Nearpod, allows teachers to project lessons directly to iPads and engage students with interactive instruction. It does require a little training for teachers to use.

# F. District In-Service Day, November 6<sup>th</sup> – Dr. Connie Bompadre

Dr. Bompadre provided the committee an overview of the in-service day. The Unified Arts Department participated in county-wide events.

## **Elementary School**

- enVisionMath workshop in the morning and reported back to home schools in the afternoon for building level or grade level discussion
- some teachers also took part in a Writer's Notebook Activity at Culbertson.

#### Middle School

- Math (grades 6-8) created Algebra I Keystone review materials
- Science reviewed new science resource materials along with high school teachers
- Social Studies/Language Arts Progress Monitoring (AM), Formative Assessment (PM)
- Foreign Language worked with Social Studies/Language Arts (AM), Incorporating Technology in the Classroom at Delaware County Technical School (PM)

### **High School**

- Math Keystone Review Packet
- Science reviewed new science resource materials along with middle school teachers
- Social Studies/Language Arts/World Language Keystone Teaching Strategies
- World Language Incorporating Technology in the Classroom at Delaware County Technical School (PM)

### Miscellaneous

A Russell School parent addressed the committee about the large class sizes in Grade 3 and was hoping that a classroom assistant could be added or a permanent building sub could be hired. The parent said that research shows benefits to smaller class sizes.

Dr. Horowitz explained that the Board does not like to see any more than 27 students in an elementary classroom. If this is an issue, it must be discussed with the other Board members. If there were to be changes in class sizes, the change must be consistent across the district.

# VI. Motions

A. Motion to approve the following teachers: Karen Siegel, Dean Vlahos, Michelle McAlea, and Mary Flounders to accompany Paxon Hollow Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grade to travel to Hershey Park on June 6, 2013 from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM. The cost per student is \$57 paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

- B. Motion to waive first reading of and approve on final reading Policy No. 122 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.
- C. Motion to waive first reading of and approve on final reading Policy No. 123 INTER- SCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn M. Paine