

Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting Notes

Wednesday, June 17, 2009, 6:00 PM

Attending: Board Members - Ray Tai, Mary Hartnett, Ana Vander Woude, Michael Collins
Administrators - Barbara Duncan, Mary Beth Currie

Department Policy for World Language Acceleration:

We continued discussing department policy for World Language acceleration. Mrs. Currie has begun to look at what other districts are doing in this area, particularly those with recognized, exemplary World Language programs. Mrs. Currie will continue to investigate with Kevin Bals, the World Language Supervisor. They then will report back to the committee for continued discussion.

Textbook Adoption:

The committee reviewed the adoption of a new textbook for Algebra 1 (Honors Gr. 8) and recommended it to be approved by the whole board at June 24th meeting.

Items for Approval:

Generous donations were approved from the HFEE in the form of minigrants as well as a monetary gift to purchase items for the district. A generous donation of instructional materials for speech from Suzanne Gestrich also was approved by the committee. Both will be on the board's June 24th agenda.

C&I Work Plan:

High Priority:

- World Language Program
- Basic Skills Program
- Technology
- Character Education
- Differentiated Instruction (and Professional Development on New Curriculum Writing)
- HS Programming
 - o Fine and Performing Arts Program – Honors Music in 09-10, and Honors Arts in 10-11
 - o HS Courses Acceleration/Online Courses
 - o HS Open House & Orientation
- QSAC/5-year Curriculum Plan
- Data Analysis to Drive C&I – Learnia, NJASK and other tests are being used to identify target areas
- Middle Majority – investigate whether the needs of the “average” student are appropriately addressed in Holmdel
- Medium Priority (continue to monitor & seek opportunity for improvement this year or in the long run):
- Preschool program – starting in 09-10
- Class Grouping
- Summer Reading
- Satz/HS Program of Study
- Summer Enrichment Program
- Gift & Talented

Just Monitor (have been addressed in recent years, no major changes planned this year):

- AP Course Criteria
- Honors Course Criteria
- Ranking/Valedictorian & Salutatorian calculation
- Administrators' Professional Development Initiative
- Numerical to letter grade translation and Lunch Exemption guidelines

Next Meeting: 6:00pm, July 22, 2009, Central Office Conference Room.