

Curriculum and Instruction Committee Notes

January 23, 2017

Administration: Dr. McGarry, Gary Goldberg

Board Members: Denise Kline, Eileen Briamonte, Chiung-Yin Cheng Liu, Lori Ammirati (via phone)

CURRICULUM

Approvals on tonight's agenda:

- Pilot Programs for 5th grade Social Studies:
 - Discovery Education, an on-line tech book.
 - Pearson, a hard copy series with on-line resources
- Benchmark Literacy pilot for Grades K-6 Language arts.
- The novel, *Pax*, for Literacy in Grade 5
- Rutgers dual credit partnership for an Allied Sports Health Program at HHS
- Holmdel High School Program of Studies

Update:

- The Implementation of the NGSS and Knowing Science K-5. This program offers a hands-on project based approach to learning. The use of textbooks is minimal.
- New High School courses for 2017-2018
- Mindfulness implementation:
 - The High School chose a company called Lifelines for their implementation, a program brought in from an outside vendor. One of their focuses is on suicide prevention.
 - Indian Hill is exploring a design originally planned for Satz that focuses on lessons for all students through Health classes
 - Satz is designating their own teachers to implement a mindfulness program through all teachers

Topics for discussion:

Enabling high school students to create, through collaboration with their school counselors (and parents' of course), individual career concentrations. We looked at some samples of how career course pathways could look.

INSTRUCTION

Update:

- Wordly Wise action research study
- Advanced level criteria planning
- Advanced levels in Grades 5-8
- The second round of MAP assessments started January 23 and will go until February 17th.

Topics for discussion:

- The start and end time of schools
- Differentiating instruction plans going forward
- The article: Detracked and Going Strong

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Approval:

- PD Day in-house presenters and contracted vendors

Update:

- January 27th Professional Development Day and schedule.
- The overall PD day was a success. When asked to complete the sentence, “Overall, the day was . . .”
 - 42.7% of feedback respondents selected, “Excellent! Let’s do more like this one.”
 - 49.3% selected, “Good. A nice way to do a full day.”
 - 6.7% selected, “Not so great. It kind of disappointed me.”
 - 1.3% selected, “A very long day. It didn’t work for me at all.”
- Feedback on other elements of the day was also solicited. That data will be reviewed and acted upon by the district’s professional development committee

Topics for discussion:

- February 17th Early Dismissal PD activities will be PLC meetings by all staff.
- March 17th Full PD Day program is likely to focus on differentiating instruction and small group instruction.

DONATIONS

- Medical Grant Program from the National Automobile Dealers Charitable Foundation for a CPR training unit for Holmdel HS, approximate value:\$885
- *Pax*, a novel awarded to Emily Corrigan, Grade 5 teacher, through a grant program

MISCELLANEOUS

Approvals:

- Page Scholar observation at Holmdel High School on March 23, 2017

Updates:

- Regulations for the recently approved On-Line Course policy are being developed, headed by the High School Counseling Office

- Parent University--the district is looking into providing workshops for parents through the Enterprise Program. The first topic is expected to be Google functions that Holmdel students are expected to use. Further topics are yet to be determined through survey and feedback.

Topic for discussion:

- The possible re-establishment of summer academic camps through the Enterprise Program.
 - Exploring the value of bringing in pre-constructed kits or learning programs and recruiting interested, skilled teachers on staff to deliver the instruction
 - Anticipate them to be 4 day workshops at 3 hours each day.