

CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT
Curriculum Committee Minutes
March 12, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Gamble, Chairperson
Gerri McMullin, Member
Kelly Unger, Member
Jerel Wohl, Member

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Steve Corr	Joe Jagelka	Dr. David Weitzel	S. Cashman
Jim Duffy	Tyler Tomlinson	Dr. Nancy Silvius	K. Fantasky
Paul Faulkner		Dale Scafuro	Dr. Mumford

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

S. Collopy commented on elementary report card and grades, portfolio conferences and homework in writing.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Curriculum Committee Minutes from January 8, 2014 were approved as presented.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Updated on Elementary Report Card—Administrators S. Cashman, K. Fantasky, Dr. Mumford and Staff Developer S. Dailey provided an update on the progress of revising the elementary report card to a standards-based reporting system.

Analysis forums have been held with differing groups of stakeholders. Various media, including brochures, website information, and Powtoons, have been developed to educate the public on the revised elementary reporting system. The Standard-Based Report Card video is now showing on CBTv. Three clusters meetings are planned for April 7, 23, and 28.

S. Cashman discussed the components on the new progress reports, showing the progression from first, to second, to third, to fourth marking period. Forty families have been part of the pilot group using the revised progress report this year.

Mr. Jagelka commented that a standards-based reporting system is the better way to report on the fundamentals which are what we teach in elementary school.

Mr. Corr commented that the upcoming cluster meetings are excellent opportunities for Board members to attend and listen to comments from the public.

Revised Policy 913-Non school Organizations/Groups/Individuals and Policy 220-Student Expression—These two policies were presented together as recommendation for revisions from PSBA arose out of a lawsuit in the state.

Revised Policy 222-Smoking—This policy's title will be changed to "Tobacco". Discussions on whether e-cigarettes should be included in the policy. Also, the responses to a second smoking violation by a student were discussed. Mrs. Scafuro and Dr. Silvius suggested that more research occur on the number of second and third offenses which occur in our secondary schools. Other school districts' policy on this topic will be further researched and brought back to this Committee at a future date.

Revised Policy 227-Controlled Substances—This policy was moved to the May meeting for discussion.

Revised Policy 113.1—Discipline of Students with Disabilities—The revisions in this policy follow IDEA regulations and case law and are recommendations from PSBA.

Discussion on Conference/Workshops offered by PSBA and NSBA—Discussion on Board members attending these conferences as there is a need for training, especially for newer members, at a reasonable cost. Attending NSBA is more costly than PSBA so it was concluded that looking at PSBA offerings would be more appropriate at this time. Dr. Weitzel will research PSBA conferences and workshops and pertinent topics.

Mr. Gamble stated that he has been advocating team-building workshops. Mr. Tomlinson commented that the three-day PSBA conference he attended in October 2013 was beneficial. Mrs. McMullin commented that it was determined several years ago that to be mindful of cost, no more than three board members would attend any conference and that each would attend different sessions and all would return to provide information on what they had learned to the full Board.

Mr. Faulkner stated that conferences for Board members need to be approved just as with other staff conferences.

Agenda Addendum—Discussion Items

Times for Graduation Ceremonies for June 20, 2014—The committee decided to set the graduation times this year as 2:00 PM for CB East, 4:00 PM for CB West and 6:00 PM for CB South.

Board Resolution in Support of Pennsylvania House Bill 2766—The committee agreed to support a Board Resolution for this bill. Dr. Weitzel will develop the Resolution. Dr. Weitzel affirmed that the Holocaust, genocide and human rights violations are addressed in grades 7 through 12 in both social studies and language arts classes. Mr. Corr commented that although he was supportive of this resolution, he did feel the Board should be cautious regarding continued directives from the State legislators regarding what topics must be taught in our schools.

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes submitted by Dr. Nancy Silvius, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education and Administrative Liaison to the Curriculum Committee.