

CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT
Curriculum Committee Minutes
May 14, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Gamble, Chairperson
Jerel Wohl, Member

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Steve Corr
Paul Faulkner
Joe Jagelka
Tyler Tomlinson
Dr. David Weitzel
Dr. Nancy Silvius
Dale Scafuro

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Geri McMullin
Kelly Unger

PUBLIC COMMENT

S. Collopy, C. Hernandez, C. Evangelista, and K. Weinhold commented on departmentalization at the elementary level.

M. Schmidt commented on 1) adjusting social studies curriculum to match time period of books being read in English and 2) voiced support of teaching a strong foundation in grammar.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Curriculum Committee Minutes from April 9, 2014 were approved as presented.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Revised School Board Policy 103 Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices—The revised policy incorporates updates based on the reauthorization of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act as well as current case law. More detail regarding the process for determining eligibility for services under Section 504 is now included in the policy.

Revised School Board Policy 113.2-Behavior Support—The revised policy incorporates updates on current case law as well as best practice in positive behavior support. Specific detail on what constitutes restraints is now included in the policy.

Revised School Board Policy 202-Admission of Students—This policy will now allow a student who ceases to be a resident student after completion of their junior year to complete their senior year, tuition free, so long as the student attended a District school continuously for his/her sophomore and junior years and remains in good academic standing to graduate. The student's disciplinary record must remain free of serious infractions. The current policy allows a senior who moves after the first marking period to complete their senior year tuition free.

Revised School Board Policy 222-Tobacco—This policy revision changes the policy name from "Smoking" to "Tobacco" and further defines "Tobacco" to include smokeless tobacco in any form and any nicotine delivery system.

J. Gamble commented on the need for proper signage regarding "no smoking" on school campuses.

Revised School Board Policy 227-Controlled Substances—This policy revision updates the definition of controlled substances and includes the requirement to report incidents of possession, use and sale to the Office of Safe Schools. Additionally the policy provides more detail on how to handle

incidents involving paraphernalia and over the counter medication when no other controlled substances are present.

Revised Policy 246-Wellness—This policy incorporates revisions required by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. This policy also defines competitive foods and mandates that if a school does not operate under the National School Lunch Program; all main meals must still meet or exceed the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act guidelines.

J. Jagelka questioned whether not having high schools on the National School Lunch Program was opening the door for more vending machines and was assured there is no change in the school district's position on vending machines.

Possible Addition of "The Fault in Our Stars" by John Green for Academic English 9—Copies of this novel were available to Board members to read for possible future consideration as an addition to Academic English 9. This will be a topic of consideration at the September 2014 meeting.

PVAAS Teaching-Specific Reporting—Information was provided regarding PVAAS teacher-specific reporting, a new component of the Act 82 Educator Effectiveness System. This component applies only to teachers of PSSA and Keystone Exam courses and grade levels and is designed to provide a measure of academic growth for a teacher's group of students. PVAAS growth scores over three consecutive years are combined to create a growth score that then becomes part of a teacher's annual rating. The PVAAS teacher-specific growth score will be applied to teacher ratings for the first time at the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

Agenda Addendum—Revised School Board Policy 810.3—Transportation Video/Audio Recording—The Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) provides draft policies for school districts to use throughout the state. PSBA wrote Policy 810.3 to comply with new state laws that permit school districts to record audio and video on school buses. Prior to the new laws, it was permitted to make recordings with the permission of the district attorney's office and following the direction of the district attorney's office such as posting signs on school buses so that passengers are aware of the recordings.

This is a new policy developed by PSBA. Administration does not recommend any changes to the policy. The district is currently in compliance with all of the policy requirements and recommendations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is no scheduled Curriculum Committee Meeting for June 2014. The next scheduled meeting is September 10, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

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