

**CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Curriculum Committee Notes**  
**January 14, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Gamble, Chairperson  
Jerel Wohl, Member

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Steve Corr     Dr. David Weitzel  
                       Dr. David Bolton  
                           Dr. Nancy Silvious

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Kelly Unger

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES

There were no changes

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

**Pennsylvania Youth Survey**—Dale Scafuro presented the results of the 2013 PA Youth Survey. This survey determines the prevalence and frequency of at-risk behaviors as well as the risk and protective factors students identify in their lives. This survey is sponsored by the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency and is available to the District at no cost. It was given anonymously to all 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.

When compared to results from 2009, students in all grade levels reported a lower 30 day use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and inhalants. Additionally students reported engaging in high risk behaviors (defined as binge drinking, driving after alcohol, driving after marijuana) at a lower rate than 2009 in all grade levels. An increase from 2009 was seen in the percentage of students who responded they were “inclined to think I am a failure” and “felt and depressed most days”. The number of risk factors student reported in their lives was a lower than the state average; students reported a greater number of positive assets or protective factors in their lives than the state average.

These results have been shared with district staff and parent groups across the District.

**Occupation Therapy/Physical Therapy provider**—Austill’s Rehabilitation Services has been providing Occupational and Physical Therapy Services (OT/PT) to the District since 2008. The current contract is set to expire in June 2015 and Austill’s has presented the District with a proposal to extend the contract through June 2018. The new proposal has no increase the first year of the contract and a total increase of 2.6 % over the final two years, representing less than a 1% yearly increase over the life the contract. The total increase from the first contract (July 2008) to the present has been about 1% per year.

In addition to costs, other factors to consider include the high retention rate for therapists which has been important to program continuity, staff relationships and overall quality of service. Austill’s has been extremely responsive to the District’ staffing needs and has reacted quickly to any gaps in service. Additionally Austill’s provides staff development to the therapists as well as training in meeting mandated requirements from PDE (i.e, child abuse) all at no cost to the District.

**Revision to Policy 806—Child/Student Abuse**—Dr. Silvious presented the revised version of policy 806 and the suggested title change to “Child Abuse.” This revisions in this policy are required by PDE.

The changes reflect much of the information in the Child Protective Services law and the associated revisions to School Code related to identification and reporting requirements for suspected child abuse and training requirements for school employees on recognition and reporting child abuse. This revised policy will move to the next Board meeting for consideration.

**Calendar 2015-2016**—A draft of the school calendar for 2015-2016 was presented by Dr. Weitzel. He mentioned the following highlights—school starts before Labor Day as per district policy related to the date of Labor Day which builds more instructional days at the beginning of the year before winter weather becomes an issue; elementary students will attend half days on Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week while secondary students attend full day Monday and half day Tuesday. The early dismissal on March 11<sup>th</sup> satisfies the teacher contract for a half day clerical for elementary teachers at the end of each marking period. Specific planning was given to not having the last school of school occur on a Monday. The draft calendar will move to the next Board meeting for consideration.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next scheduled meeting is February 11, 2015.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Notes submitted by Dr. Nancy Silvius, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education