

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

10:00 a.m.

July 16, 2015

District Office

Members Present: Stuart Long, Robert Runge, Janelle Liermann

Others Present: Louise Blankenheim, Sheila Lefeber

Call to Order Meeting called to order at 10:23 a.m.

Committee Goals Member Long began the meeting providing an overview of the curriculum committee's work from 2014/15 for Member Liermann, who is new to the committee.

The purpose of the curriculum committee is to review and evaluate educational (including co-curricular) programs on a scheduled basis, including making recommendations to the Board for changes, additions, or organized abandonment based on their findings. To discuss and evaluate the implementation of the district strategic plan as it relates to curriculum. The curriculum committee is to be informed on what the District is doing to meet the academic needs of students such as: grade-level progression, review specific subject areas (ie; reading/math at elementary level); political bias, closing the gap data, testing data, process/delivery of instruction; career goals of students as well as industry, and parent engagement.

The committee discussed how Education continues to change with Educator Effectiveness and new curriculum which entails professional development and preparation time for teachers.

The committee brainstormed the following goal/agenda ideas:

- Intervention Programs – are we meeting student needs
- Academic Career Plan – DPI requirement in 2017
- Science Standards “New Generations” – October 2016
- Formative Assessments – PLC
- Educator Effectiveness
- PLC Visit
- Student Achievement
- Closing the Gap
- Local Data
- ACT Suite Scores
- Classroom visits and follow-up

- Participation at District Inservices

Some other thoughts expressed include:

- Student comprehension (esp. math)
- Are teachers competent and secure in subject area
- Board members need to be more visible in the District
- Student behavior and impact to curriculum/learning
 - Is this a classroom management issue
 - Is it an issue or a challenge
- How can the Board be more effective in supporting/guiding suggestions
- What supports are needed from the Board
- Need consistent communication between teachers and parents

We briefly discussed the need to be cautious of outliers on new initiatives. Below are some protocols the committee determined should be followed when questions are directed at board members:

- 1) Direct parents to talk with (1) teacher; (2) principal; (3) district administrator
- 2) Notify the district administrator with specifics
- 3) Update curriculum committee members
- 4) If parent not comfortable talking to teacher/principal for retaliation purposes:
 - a. Need to forward complaint to appropriate person.....board member cannot solve
 - b. Board needs to stay neutral (conduit for information)

Member Liermann inquired if teachers have the resources necessary to teach? Member Runge wondered if teacher morale is an issue.

The committee discussed norms and expectations of curriculum committee members. Below are some expectations:

- 1) Email agenda items to Sheila
- 2) Contact Louise or principal if you want to learn more about something
- 3) Give principal's a call if planning to visit school (common courtesy)

Goals

- Need to be more visible
- Supportive
- Knowledgeable
- Do more classroom visits
- Attend district inservices, if possible

- PLC visits
- Personal notes to presenters

Following discussion of each agenda item, the committee members need to answer the following questions:

- 1) What action/expectation is needed/required from curriculum members?
- 2) What is the impact to the curriculum committee goals and strategic plan?

Future Meetings

Schedule regular monthly meetings on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 8-10:00 a.m., during the school year. The committee's goal is to meet during the time indicated subject to resource availability and other learning opportunities.

Adjourn

On Motion of Member Runge, seconded by Member Liermann, the meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.