



Wyomissing Area School District

630 Evans Avenue, Wyomissing PA 19610

Curriculum/Technology Committee

Friday, July 28, 2017

Community Board Room

Committee Chair: **Laurie Waxler**

Committee Members: **Susan Larkin and Maria Ziolkowski**

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Laurie Waxler, Susan Larkin, Maria Ziolkowski, Lynette Waller, Scott Arnst, Jessica Lengle

Committee Members Absent: None

Public Attendees: Sign-in sheet attached

Meeting called to order by Laurie Waxler at 11:02 am

Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve the Curriculum and Technology minutes for Monday, June 5, 2017.
- Vote: Motion Carried
- Resolved: Minutes from the meeting on Monday, June 5, 2017 were approved without modifications.

Public Comment *[reserved for agenda items only]:*

Mr. Minich expressed concern about his daughter's exposure to STEM related instruction and requested that hands-on collaborative STEM opportunities be given to his daughter and other students in an equitable manner.

Mr. Gent asked about the Board goal of overseeing a robust STEM curriculum and wanted to know what has been done.

Old Business

Technology Integration

The committee reviewed the technology summer projects which included collecting teacher laptops and deploying new devices. Student iPads at the JSHS will be redeployed starting with seniors so that they can start working on their college applications. A plan is being developed for redeployment for students in grades 8-11 to receive their iPads prior to the first day of school and for 7th grade students to receive

their devices during the first week of school. At WREC, we are continuing to integrate iPads with a full 1:1 implementation starting in the fall. All students will have their devices by the end of the first week of school. In preparation for technology integration at WHEC, we are updating the wireless infrastructure to ensure that all computers have internet access. Teacher professional development training is being planned for the fall with a mid-year deployment of student devices to include shared class sets in grades K-2 and individual classroom sets for grades 3 and 4. Last Spring, the District partnered with WAEF to provide access to the Gizmos software for science and math simulations to support instructional content being presented. The software has been integrated with our network and the pilot teachers will complete training this summer. We have also integrated STAR 360, which is a screening and progress monitoring tool for reading and math. This program will enable teachers to screen students for their current performance levels and to progress monitor students receiving intervention support services. STAR 360 will go live on Monday, July 31 and teachers will participate in in-service trainings on August 22.

STEAM Innovation - Update

The committee reviewed district progress towards the development of the STEAM plan from the previous school year which included a STEAM Innovation Design Plan presentation highlighting feedback from teachers about a potential framework. A STEAM ad-hoc committee was formed with teacher representation from all three buildings. The District integrated additional technology hardware and software to support technology currently in place (i.e. reimaged MacBook Airs to support Renaissance 360, enhanced Wi-Fi throughout the District, upgraded software licenses for adobe and SketchUp Pro). The administration also held preliminary conversations with representatives from WAEF to discuss their potential involvement with STEAM Innovation. AEM architects met with teachers from the Computer Science department to gather more input for the STEAM wing at the JSHS. The administration identified next steps to include establishing a STEAM Advisory Committee to include community members and businesses and to begin writing the Comprehensive STEAM Plan with the inclusion of a curriculum framework. The committee was asked to identify a work group to establish the criteria for identifying community members/businesses to be on the STEAM Advisory Committee. The administration will work to identify an independent consultant to work with the District to develop the Comprehensive STEAM Plan and funding for this individual. Mrs. Larkin requested additional information pertaining to current staff in place to support STEM initiatives, specific STEM opportunities provided to the students at WHEC and WREC and how the STEM equipment, purchased for WREC, is being utilized. She asked that the wrestling rooms, locker rooms and old training rooms be part of the discussions with teachers and architects regarding their possible use in STEM renovation project.

STEAM AD-HOC

The STEAM ad hoc committee met on June 9. The goal of the meeting was to determine a plan for communicating the focus on STEM with teachers in the District and to plan STEAM based professional development for the 17-18 school year with an emphasis on inquiry based instruction. The STEAM ad-hoc teachers will meet on Monday, August 21, to finalize the professional development planning for the 17-18 school year.

New Business

Parent Contact Information

The District is preparing the summer mailings and beginning of school year communications for parents. These communications will include directions for how parents can update their emergency contact information online through Home Access Center.

Foreign Exchange Student

The District received a foreign exchange student request from CIEE for the upcoming school year. The student is from Thailand and will be in the 11th grade. The District has previously worked with CIEE for a foreign exchange student placement. Last spring, the department of education changed the accountability system for foreign exchange students. Exchange students are now considered a special population of ELL students and are required to take the PSSA or Keystone, if they are enrolled in a trigger course. Student participation and proficiency scores would be attributed to the District.

Transportation Request

There was one transportation request for students to attend the Model UN competition in Baltimore, Maryland in February 2018. This is an annual competition in which our students participate. The advisors are requesting approval now so that they can register to participate by Sept 29.

Announcements: None

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, September 7, 2017

Adjournment: 12:23pm

Respectfully submitted by Lynette Waller, Acting Superintendent