



Wyomissing Area School District

630 Evans Avenue, Wyomissing PA 19610

Curriculum/Technology Committee

Thursday, September 7, 2017

Community Board Room

Committee Chair: **Laurie Waxler**

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

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Laurie Waxler, Maria Ziolkowski, Jennafer Reilly, Lynette Waller, Scott Arnst, Jessica Lengle

Committee Members Absent: Susan Larkin

Public Attendees: Sign-in sheet attached

Meeting called to order by Laurie Waxler at 11:04 am

Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve the Curriculum and Technology minutes for Friday, July 28, 2017.
- Vote: Motion Carried
- Resolved: Minutes from the meeting on Friday, July 28, 2017 were approved without modifications.

Public Comment [*reserved for agenda items only*]: None

Old Business

Technology Integration Update

All students at WREC and JSHS received their devices the first week of school. We also redeployed laptops to WHEC for the start of the school year. The process for new students receiving devices and managing student technology concerns or devices has been streamlined to increase the response time. The tech department has also corrected glitches with eSchool integration and the use of Pearson products on the iPads.

STEAM Innovation Update

In August, the District launched the STEAM page on the district website to communicate our progress with STEAM initiatives to staff, parents and community members.

With the goal of creating a makerspace in all three buildings, we transitioned the computer lab at WREC into a makerspace for student innovation and design. The room contains all of the STEAM materials provided by WAEF along with donated materials. Teachers can take students to the room to use the materials or sign items out for use in their classroom. The STEM teacher has developed lesson plans and activities aligned to Standards, to support the use of the materials. Teachers will participate in training sessions to learn how to incorporate the materials into their instruction.

At WHEC, materials and lesson plans are available for classroom use, including robots and Breakout Boxes. There is a need for additional STEAM materials. We will determine the materials needed to introduce STEAM instruction. At JSHS, the district is scheduling a follow-up meeting with AEM architects and the Computer Science department to see preliminary renderings for the STEM wing renovations. A recommendation was made to consult with RELATE, INC. to develop a STEAM plan summary plan and summary presentation for the STEAM Advisory Committee.

STEAM AD-HOC

The STEAM ad hoc committee met on August 21, to plan the professional development for teachers scheduled for September 27. This will be the first professional development session for teachers aligned to our STEAM focus of integrating inquiry based instruction. The STEAM ad hoc teachers also discussed the plans to form a STEAM advisory committee and were provided with an opportunity to share their thoughts on the criteria and recommendations for the committee members.

New Business

State Achievement Testing

Mrs. Waller shared the announced changes to the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) that will reduce the length of the tests by 20 percent in grades three through eight. Beginning this school year, students in grades three through eight will spend an average of 20 percent less time on statewide testing. The Department of Education has removed one math and one English Language Arts section and some questions from the science section. The math assessment will be shortened by 48 minutes and the English Language Arts assessment will be shortened by 45 minutes. The Science assessment will be shortened by 22 minutes.

Assessment Calendar

The 2017-2018 State assessment calendar was shared with the committee. The calendar will also be posted on the website.

Parent/School Communication

The district will be transitioning to School Messenger for the district website. This new platform has the capability to generate district and school level newsletter with more dynamic content and photographs. We are currently in the development stage and will determine internal procedures for creating the content.

Alvernia MOU

The district will renew the Agency Affiliation Agreement with Alvernia University's Athletic Training Program.

Instruction in the Home Request

The committee reviewed a request for a student to receive instruction in the home from 8/26 to 10/20 with 8 hours per week.

Transportation Request

The committee discussed the transportation request for the JSHS Marching Band to participate in the High School Band Day at the University of Massachusetts on Oct. 27-29. The University of Massachusetts hosts a high school band day during one of their home football games. High school students from different schools rehearse and perform a half-time show together.

Announcements: None

School Immunizations

Thank you to our school nurses for communicating with parents over the summer to ensure students were fully vaccinated.

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, September 28, 2017

Adjournment: 12:23pm

Respectfully submitted by Lynette Waller, Acting Superintendent