



# Wyomissing Area School District

630 Evans Avenue, Wyomissing PA 19610

Curriculum Committee  
Thursday, September 8, 2016  
Community Board Room

**Committee Chair:** Laurie Waxler

**Committee Members:** Susan Larkin, Jennafer Reilly, Terrie Taylor

## Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** Laurie Waxler, Susan Larkin, Jennafer Reilly, Lynette Waller, Julie Vicente

**Committee Members Absent:** Terrie Taylor

Audience sign-in sheet included in these minutes

Meeting called to order by Laurie Waxler at 11:03am

### Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve the minutes for Monday, August 1
- Vote: Motion Carried
- Resolved: Minutes from the meeting on Monday, August 1 were approved without with modifications.

### Old Business

Exchange Students

State Testing - Exchange students are considered a special population of ELL students and are required to take the PSSA or Keystone if they are enrolled in a trigger course for PSSA or Keystone. Student participation will be attributed to the District and the State. Proficiency scores will not be attributed to the District or State.

### New Business

Transportation Request

2017 Williamsburg Heritage Festival

- April 6-9
- Williamsburg, VA
- Educational performance trip
- Performance critiqued and clinics offered for students

- Anticipate 88 students with 12 chaperones
- Students are responsible for the cost; to fundraise, they will be holding a Pops Concert to defray the cost of the bus

A second request was received on Wednesday, September 7. The committee agreed to add the request to the agenda.

#### Model UN Competition at Rutgers University

- December 1-4, 2016
- 12-16 students, chaperones have been secured
- Overnight accommodations will be determined

#### Co-Curricular Clubs

Two clubs were piloted last year (see below) with no stipend; if Board wishes to establish these clubs, a stipend will be set.

**Aavidum** - which means "I've got your back." This is a club that empowers students to shatter the silence surrounding depression, suicide, and other issues facing teenagers and promote a culture of care and advocacy. Last year Aavidum members participated in state and county suicide prevention public service video and poster contest. They were awarded third place in the poster contest sponsored by the Berks County Healthy Transitions and Disability Program. They were also recognized at Strike Out the Stigma – mental health awareness event at a Reading Phillies game. Aavidum is led by Teresa LeScala and supported by five teachers, Mrs. Knauer, Mrs. Mayberry, Mrs. Macaronis, Ms. Godek, Mrs. Barletta. Nationally, many high schools have added this as a club in their buildings. 12 students participated during the pilot year.

#### **National Spanish Honor Society** - Led by Margaret Shomgard

Last year, the National Spanish Honor Society held an induction ceremony, participated in a Peace Corps activity, held a Jr. High Scavenger hunt, participated in the National Spanish Exam, and participated in a Peace Corps pen pal project with students in Paraguay. The National Spanish Honor Society had 56 students participate during the pilot year.

#### AMAO

The Bureau of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction released the Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAO) Status Report for the 2013-2014 school year. The AMAO status report is for districts who receive Title III funds to serve children who are designated as Limited English Proficient, also known as English Language Learners. There are three AMAO targets all three targets must be met in order for a district to meet the overall AMAO target. The AMAO targets are as follows:

AMAO 1 – annual increase in the number or percentage of students making progress toward learning English

AMAO 2 – annual increase in the number or percentage of students attaining English proficiency on the ACCESS for ELLs assessment

AMAO 3 – making annual measurable objectives on the state assessment

The district met the targets for AMAO 1 and 2, however the target for AMAO 3 was not met. Within AMAO 3 the district met the targets for ELL test participation in reading and ELL test participation in math. The graduation target was not applicable to the district. The district did not meet the targets for closing the achievement gap for ELL students in reading and mathematics. As a result of not meeting the AMAO 3 target, the district must issue a letter to ELL parents informing them that we did not meet the target for the 2013-2014 school year. The district is doing an analysis of the data to determine the current ELL level and grade level of the students who were tested in 2013-2014 and the instructional programming to determine additional instructional changes necessary.

#### Credit Recovery and Summer School

The board is being asked to consider Educere: K-12 Virtual Educational Services for students in need of credit recovery and summer school courses. In the past we have used PLATO for \$19,600 per year. We have budgeted \$19,600 for the current school year. We have identified Educere as a program that will address our needs, while offering support for students. The district would only pay for the services we use, rather than a flat fee. Credit Recovery/Summer School courses will cost \$195.00 per student, per course. The program is intended for High School, grades 9-12 (could be considered for junior high students). This program would not be used at the elementary level. The district is requesting board approval to transition from PLATO to Educere for credit recovery and summer school courses. Upon approval, Policy 124 Summer School, will need to be reviewed.

#### BCIU Driver Education Program

BCIU is requesting permission to offer the Driver Education Behind the Wheel program to students from the district who register for BCIU's Driver Education Program. We have been in a partnership with BCIU since 2012. Since the time of our last agreement, there has been a change in the administrator for the program and the insurance carrier. There is no cost to the district for this program.

#### BrightBytes Survey Data

The committee reviewed the data for the past two years. Background information was provided when we began using the Bright Bytes data survey in Nov 2014, May 2105 and April 2016. For our most recent data collection, our overall rating is proficient, Classroom (emerging), Access (exemplary), Skills (advanced) and Environment(proficient). A comparison of 2015 data (1059) to 2016 data (1073) was shared. Significant growth was realized in the past year utilizing the iPads vs the Asus tablets. Access: Remained overall in the exemplary category with a negligible dip in numerical score. Skills: Overall increase since last period of data collection; teachers' multimedia skills grew one proficiency level. Environment: Consistent with the last period of collection; gains in professional learning and believes. Classroom: Gains in student use of the 4 C's, student digital citizenship and assessment; growth in teacher use of the 4Cs is constant (collaboration, critical thinking, creativity and

communication). Areas of celebration include teachers' multimedia skills growth and beliefs, and student digital citizenship. Growth opportunity include technical support, professional development and teacher use of the 4Cs.

## STEM

The STEAM Innovation Design Plan presented (inclusion of 'A' to include the arts in the plan). The STEAM Innovation Design Plan was defined as a plan to develop students' 21st century skills with application in the real world, to integrate standards, big ideas, and projects across content areas and grades. The plan outcomes, focus areas, big ideas were identified. The plan will continue to be discussed during the October Curriculum Committee meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35pm

Respectfully submitted by Lynette Waller, September 9, 2016