

## **Curriculum Committee of the Board Meeting Minutes June 16, 2014**

*The Curriculum Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors met on Monday, June 16, 2014 in the Superintendent's Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Curriculum Committee Chairman Mel Brodsky. Present were Board President, Susan Moore; Vice-President, Beth Suchsland; Board Members: Leslie Finegold, Heather Palmer, Kathleen Oxberry, Alan Tabachnick; Superintendent, Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer; Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Dr. Liz McKeane; Curriculum Supervisors: Dr. Katy Giovanisci, Sergio Anaya, Curriculum Coordinator, Gina Nelson; Principal of CMS: Bob Fahler, Assistant Principal of CMS: Mike Azcona; CMS Teachers: Mike Lyle, Jerome Joyce; Principal of PWHS: Jason Bacani, Assistant Principal of PWHS: Stephen Price; Community Member Linda Doll and Nancy Aiken.*

**Public Comments:** There were no public comments on the agenda.

Curriculum Committee Chairman Mel Brodsky opened the meeting asking for any public comments and there were none. Dr. McKeane then welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **PWHS Scheduling**

Jason Bacani, Principal of PWHS and Steve Price, Assistant Principal of PWHS presented a Power Point Presentation entitled "PWHS Strategic Planning Scheduling Committee," which demonstrated the findings and recommendations proposed for PWHS scheduling changes. The new proposed scheduling changes have come from a process of thorough review and great reflection by Committee Representatives which included the PW Administrative Team, Curriculum Department, Department heads and consultant, Dr. Rettig. It was noted that the top priorities and overarching goals were to maintain the integrity of a block schedule in terms of instructional best practices (e.g. inquiry based, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, differentiated instruction & student engagement), increase flexibility and choice in the schedule for students; revise whole school remediation/enrichment time (Current I Block), and to be fiscally responsible with plan. At this time two schedules are being considered: a 5 x 5 Semester block schedule and a 5 x 5 x 5 Trimester schedule.

Jason stated that next steps would be to revisit the 5 x 5 Semester block schedule and to fine-tune the 5 x 5 x 5 Trimester schedule. The committee will also take a look at the Intervention and Enrichment (I/E) time (ie: class meetings, advisory, clubs, student support, collaborative opportunities). Mr. Bacani is going to reconvene as a committee during the August Professional Development days to review the schedules based on the set factors.

### **CMS Scheduling**

Bob Fahler, Principal of Colonial Middle School and Mike Azcona, Assistant Principal of CMS presented a Power Point Presentation entitled "CMS Scheduling Initiative," which demonstrated the findings and recommendations proposed for CMS scheduling changes.

The new proposed scheduling changes have come from a process of meetings with a scheduling consultant, Dr. Rettig and a core team of teachers who explored all options. Top priorities were to maintain teacher collaboration time, increase instructional meeting time to support instructional practices, lengthen reporting periods (marking periods to Trimesters), decrease transitional time and maintain whole school remediation/enrichment time.

All CMS Staff were invited to evaluate and provide input as members of the CMS Scheduling Committee. The feedback from the Scheduling Committee was evaluated by the Core Team and resulted in the current scheduling proposal that is being presented to the Curriculum Committee of the Board. CMS teachers and Scheduling Committee members Mike Lyle, and Jerome Joyce commented that the process was both collaborative and their experiences were positive.

Both Jason and Bob stated the benefits to implementing the new schedule in 2015-2016 school years. This would provide time to develop the schedule and refine the curriculum and instructional pacing calendar for each content area and more time to revise benchmarks and gather resources. It would also support teachers in preparing for these changes through professional development, and strengthen their knowledge and comfort with curricular changes and instructional practices.

**Information Updates:** Dr. Gorodetzer congratulated Mike Azcona on his promotion to Assistant Principal of PWHS.

**Discussion Items:** None

**Public Comment:** There were no public comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Nancy C. Aiken*  
Administrative Assistant to the Director of  
Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment