

Curriculum Committee of the Board Meeting Minutes March 13, 2017

The Curriculum Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors met on Monday, March 13, 2017 in the Superintendent's Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 4:55 pm by Curriculum Committee Chairperson, Leslie Finegold. Present were Board President, Susan Moore; Board Vice President Beth Suchsland; Board Members: Mel Brodsky, Cathy Peduzzi, Felix Raimondo; Superintendent, Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer; Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Dr. Liz McKeaney; Curriculum Supervisors: Maria Wileczek, Dr. Katy Giovanisci, Sergio Anaya; Community Members: Linda Doll, Rosemary Northcutt; and Linda Turner.

Curriculum Committee Chairperson Leslie Finegold opened the meeting asking for any public comments and there were none. Dr. McKeaney then welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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

Summer Programs

An outline of the proposed 2017 summer programs was provided for the committee's review:

- **Summer Literacy Blast**
Dr. Giovanisci shared that the target audience for this program had been expanded to include students K-6 outgoing (up from K-5). The program will focus on a balanced literacy approach with the overall goal to help students improve their reading and writing skills.
- **Girls in Technology**
This program is designed to introduce various science and technology concepts to female students entering 5th – 8th grade. We will run a ½ day and a full day program and look to introduce guest speakers in the afternoon during the full day program. Topics to be covered include NXT Robotics, elements of Web Design, Animation & Gaming, Inquiry Investigation & Rocketry, 3D Printing in the Makerspace, eTextiles, 3D Modeling/Graphic Design.
- **Singfest**
Summer Choral camp for students entering grades 2-7 designed to promote and enhance the musical achievement of students and to improve and strengthen our general music and choral program.
- **Stringfest**
Summer music camp for students entering grades 5-8 designed to promote and enhance the musical achievement of our students.
- **Summer Music Instruction**
Individual music instruction to strengthen and improve the skills of our students

CES Scheduling Proposal

CEA representatives for Colonial Elementary School shared a proposed scheduling change for 4th grade students. The 4th grade team considered several options and is looking to implement a program of study that is designed to improve student achievement and overall experience by adopting a collaborative teaching model in 4th grade that aligns to the current 5th grade and special education models. In this model, one teacher focuses on Mathematics and Science while the other teacher focuses on English Language Arts and Social Studies. This model will allow for targeted remediation and enrichment, in-depth teacher content knowledge, more opportunities for language arts integration, and increased communication between grade levels and within grade level. The CES Administration supports this proposed scheduling change.

A sample schedule and a copy of the comprehensive communication plan for 3rd grade parents will be provided for the committee's review at the April or May committee meeting.

Conference Requests

The committee reviewed conference request for Andrew Boegly, Director of Technology, to attend the CoSN 2017 Annual Conference in Chicago from April 3-5, 2017 and for CMS music teacher Dave O'Neill to attend the NAFME conference in Atlantic City on April 7, 2017. Both requests were approved.

A brief Q&A session was held, and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Turner