

Curriculum Committee of the Board Meeting Minutes June 4, 2010, 9:00 A.M.

The Curriculum Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors met on Friday, June 4, 2010, in the Superintendent's Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 9:18 a.m. by Committee Chairman Alan Tabachnick. Present were Board President, Gary Johnson and Board Vice-President, Sue Moore; Board members, Beth Suchsland and Bernie Brady; Superintendent, Dr. Vincent Cotter and Assistant Superintendent, Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer. Also in attendance were administrators Karen Berk, Eileen Spector, Dr. Liz McKeane, Sergio Anaya, Donna Gaffney, Kathleen Hamill, and CMS Principal Robert Fahler; community members, Mrs. Linda Doll and Mr. Tom Davis; and Administrative Assistant Marge Gramlich.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Special Ed. Action Plan: Ms. Eileen Spector, Secondary Special Education Curriculum Supervisor reviewed a Secondary Special Education Action Plan designed to enable students to attain post-secondary goals by addressing individual student needs. Karen Berk, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, noted that the development of this plan was a district goal for the 2009-10 school year.

Updates regarding changes to programs for PWHS Special needs students at CMTHS were shared. Mrs. Moore thanked Ms. Spector and CSD members of the CMTHS Curriculum Committee for their on-going collaboration with CMTHS. Mrs. Moore requested that Ms. Spector present this information to the Board of the Technical School at their next Curriculum Meeting.

Curriculum Updates:

- **HPE at CMS** - Mr. Robert Fahler, Principal at Colonial Middle School, shared an update regarding incorporating more time for physical activity in the CMS schedule. Meetings with administrators and a concerned parent have taken place and as a result, beginning in the 2010-11 school year, adjustments to the schedule will be made to ensure that students in all grades will alternate health and physical education each day throughout two marking periods. The potential for implementing an Intramural Program at CMS was also discussed.
- **Active Schools Grant** - Sergio Anaya, Curriculum Supervisor of Health and Physical Education, noted that an "Active Schools Grant" from the Pennsylvania Department of Health's Federal Preventative Health and Health Services is currently being reviewed. This grant would provide funds to increase students' level of physical activity in grades K through 6.
- **World Language** - Dr. Liz McKeane shared information regarding various virtual/on-line offerings to expand our world language options which are currently being explored. Sergio Anaya, World Language Supervisor, reported that, as part of an initiative to enhance the World Language Program in CSD, a team from the district will attend the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages conference in Boston in

November, 2010. Over the course of the next year a strategic plan will be developed and presented to the Curriculum Committee.

- **Girls in Technology** - Twenty-five girls are currently enrolled in the *Girls in Technology* summer course to be held at Plymouth Whitemarsh High School. Technology and resources are being secured to accommodate three additional girls who are currently on the waiting list.
- **Exploration of Grants-Planetarium** - Maria Bellino, Science Curriculum Supervisor, is researching various grants which may provide additional funding for the Planetarium. At this time, most grants have either expired or are too small to address the Planetarium needs. She will report further when more information regarding new grants is available.

Elementary Teacher Science Summer Workshop: Ms. Bellino reported that a workshop to train Science teachers based on inquiry methods will be offered to elementary Science teachers this summer. The four-day workshop is being offered by the Montco Tech School, who will pay teachers a stipend to attend. Five CSD teachers will attend the workshop.

Conference Requests: A conference request was reviewed for PWHS Career Counselor Stacy Anderson to attend the National Career Pathways Network in Dallas, Texas from October 20-23, 2010. Costs associated with this conference will be covered by the PWHS building fund.

A conference request was reviewed for PWHS College Counselor Pat Tamborelli to attend the National Association for College Admission Counseling in St. Louis, Missouri from September 29 – October 2, 2010. Costs associated with this conference will be covered by the PWHS building fund.

Consensus was given to present these conference requests to the Board at its regular Meeting on June 17th.

Early Childhood Programs Outreach: Kathleen Hamill, Language Arts Curriculum Supervisor, reported on the June 1st community outreach information session conducted at Ridge Park Elementary School. This program was designed to better inform our pre-school feeder programs about curricular and instructional programs in CSD and hopefully enhance school readiness for new kindergarten students. It was well received by those in attendance. Mrs. Hamill will analyze the feedback received and develop plans for possible next steps.

There being no Public Comments, Chairman Tabachnick adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Marge Gramlich
Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent*