

Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Michelle Cardwell, John Lumia, Peggy Kelland, Linda Rappaport, Keith Odums, Jessica Turner, Flip Gertler, Ray Koretsky, Dave Seipp

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Dr. Michelle Cardwell.

Agenda: Review and Approval of Minutes, Curriculum Multi-Year Management System, Future Topics for Discussion by the Committee

- Minutes have been approved and will be added to the Curriculum Committee folder in Google Drive.
- Dr. Cardwell presented the curriculum multi-year management system. Courses are added each year based upon academic level and student interest.
- Each department has a separate spreadsheet. Curriculum is outlined and is easy to approve by the Board. Presentation of spreadsheet makes sense.
- Grades K-6 was updated and approved.
- Grades 7-8 will be reviewed in the 2021-22 school year.
- Keeps us streamlined and on target with what needs to be done.
- College Board or DCC might already be reviewed from them. Helps with budgeting in case a new textbook is required.

Future topics for discussion:

- New K-6 math resource; currently using Math in Focus and math modules. It will take 1-2 years to implement a new resource because of the review process.

Question: Why change Math in Focus?

Answer: Did not receive good reviews. The district has used it since 2014. Tang Math was purchased to supplement Math in Focus. Engage NY math modules are no longer aligned with NYS standards. Need a new resource to work well with math workshop model

Question: What's not working well with the NYS standards?

Answer: Jessica aligned Engage NY standards with our resources. Teachers need to get more creative with aligning with the workshop model. Look to see if there is something better to meet needs which will combine the understanding of mathematical discourse. Now using guided math, conceptual math.

The district worked with Robert Marzano Group. Students can be broken up into groups; gifted and intervention.

There are different math stations (daily 5 wrapped into math)

Question: Is the curriculum changing every 2-3 years? Do we have enough textbooks for classroom and home? Online resources?

Answer: Curriculum doesn't change every year or even every 3 years. For example, Health curriculum did not get changed for several years. It depends on the subject area. Some subjects have textbooks while others do not. The district will look at purchasing new math textbooks with next generational standards. Currently, students do not have 2 sets of textbooks.

Remote Learning Catch Up For Students:

Questions: What must be considered? Summer programs? Teacher facilitated? Tutoring? Additional AIS? What has Dr. Cardwell considered? How much funding will be provided?

Answer: There is tutoring for this school year. The Honor Society tutors are starting up in the next few weeks; working with virtual, after school enrichment programs.

Next year: Looking at AIS/after school programs. Look at data to assess learning loss. Compare this year's results to last year's results. Then discuss how much support for next year. Update will be given at a future meeting once data analysis is complete.

Question: What does the workshop model look like in an elementary classroom? Should some lessons be filmed? Show how next generational standards are different from common core.

Leading and Learning Together on the WCSD website. On the staff math page there are professional development videos – Grades K, 4 and 5 math game videos that were done a few years ago.

Question: Regarding BOE policy on controversial topics. Teachers are concerned they don't have the freedom to let students express their feelings/thoughts. What is the intent of the BOE policy?

Answer: There were minor changes made to the wording of the policy. Maybe the timing of it caused concern. Students aren't speaking enough about current topics.

The next Curriculum Meeting date is 3/10/21. Tentative topic: Grades 7 & 8 Multiyear plans (Math/Science/ELA/SS); update on culturally responsive curriculum

The meeting ended at 3:40 p.m.