

HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION/SPECIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES
OCTOBER 14, 2020 AT 2:30 PM

Board Members Present: J. Collins, Chair | V. Flynn, Board President | E. Urbanski | B. Foster
Administrators Present: J. Charney, Interim Assistant Superintendent
Meeting Location: Village School Room 117 & Remote

1. The committee met on Wednesday, October 14, 2:30 pm for its Curriculum and Instruction/Special Services Committee Meeting.
2. The committee first discussed the items recommended by the Interim Superintendent for approval.
3. Under New Business, the committee discussed the following:
 - a. The Dual Enrollment Release Program with Brookdale Community College which allows qualified high school seniors to be released from the high school to take college-level courses at Brookdale's Lincroft campus or any of Brookdale's Higher Education Centers. The program is not just a program for top performing students, but a program for all students. We discussed the need to better publicize the program for many reasons including that it looks favorable on college applications and that Dr. Charney has witnessed the success of the program.
 - b. Plans for Possible Full School Day and Survey to get input and feedback from parents and teachers on instructional models being considered.
 - c. Concerns that weekly mandatory after school hours for teachers and students, which are scheduled after office hours, from 1:45-2:30 by subject area are not happening. Change in Weighting of Tests/Quizzes/Homework for Grades due to remote learning.
 - d. CARES money to be utilized to prevent students from falling through the cracks and keeping students on target. The monies will be utilized mostly for ACHIEVE students. Follow up: Title 1 postings for supplementary teachers have been posted.
 - e. Discussion of those measures being taken by the Administration to prevent cheating and plagiarism.
 - f. Discussion regarding AP classes and how well students perform. It would be beneficial to students to take AP tests after completing an AP class because Holmdel students tend to perform so well on AP tests and parents/students do not realize that students may choose what scores to report. The Committee requested updated data regarding the number of students who decline to enroll in AP classes or AP tests.
 - g. Necessity to make changes to the Grade 3 Literacy Benchmark Program because the data regarding the program has not been favorable. Dr. Charney recommends improving K-3 literacy should be a District Goal. New programs are currently being reviewed.

- h. Arts High Virtual Program with Brookdale and the need to publicize. Classes will be held Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday one afternoon a week for fourteen consecutive weeks.
 - i. The administration is investigating the investment in an updated teacher evaluation platform so that it is easier to utilize for teachers and administrators.
 - j. Discussion about the Career Concentration Program.
 - k. Introduction of The Seal of Biliteracy Program to the District
 - l. Course Placement Criteria for grades 6-8 and 9-12. The Committee was provided with an analysis of the success of our students who waive into honor classes and the success is undeniable -- only 2 students (less than 1%) of 230 students who were waived into Honors/AP classes were not able to meet the course requirements.
4. Dr. Charney discussed the School Profile document and the additional information that was being incorporated into the next document to highlight some additional information. Follow up: This has been posted on the school website after review by the Board committee and central administrators.
5. Finally, Dr. Charney gave his first LinkIt data presentation on PARCC data, which was very informative and useful. Data analysis via the LinkIt platform will be utilized to determine students' strengths and weaknesses in order to best plan for growth. In addition, one of the goals of LinkIt is that teachers will work in teams to create common assessments so there is consistency through grade and class.

Next Meeting Date: TBD