

HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION/SPECIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES
OCTOBER 20TH AT 9:00 AM

Board Members Present: E. Urbanski, Chair | E. Briamonte | L. Zhang
Administrators Present: J. Charney, Interim Assistant Superintendent
Meeting Location: Board Conference Room, Village School

The committee met in person on Wednesday, October 20th at 9:00 AM for its Curriculum and Instruction/Special Services Committee Meeting. The following agenda items were discussed.

1. Recommendation for Approval: The committee discussed items recommended by the Interim Superintendent for approval including, but not limited to: Professional development for district staff, District Clubs, Summer hours for professional development, Staff presenters, Revised curriculum writers, NJ Seal of Biliteracy Program, Statement of Assurance CEP (Comprehensive Equity Plan) 2021/2022, Dual Enrollment program with Brookdale Community College Agreement, Monmouth County Performing Arts Academy Program partnership for Middle and High school students, and Revised Standardized testing schedule for 2021/2022 school year.
2. Special Services: Dr Charney presented Special Services recommendations for approval including, but are not limited to: Home/Hospital instruction, Revised Community Based Instruction (CBI) and Structured Learning Experience (SLE) locations for 2021-2022 school year, Allocation of 2021 IDEA ARP preschool funds, and Out of district student placements.
3. Vaccination Requirements of Teachers: The state mandate requiring teachers to be vaccinated against Covid or submit to a weekly Covid test commenced on October 18th. Covid testing will take place before and after school and during teacher prep time. Testing will be paid for by a grant. Questions were asked if teachers would have Covid testing during class time and if substitutes would need to be used to fill in for when teachers are being tested. Up to 20 percent of teachers are not vaccinated.
4. District Clubs: There are 76 clubs at the High school, 19 at Satz, 10 at Indian Hill and 1 at Village. Questions were asked as to why groups like pep band, chorus and similar musical groups were listed as clubs when attendance is a class requirement.
5. Revised Testing schedule: State mandated Start Strong testing was pushed forward because of technical and administrative delays. DLM (Dynamic Learning Map) Benchmark test was moved to the Spring when it normally takes place.
6. Brookdale Dual Enrollment program: Five students currently are enrolled in the Brookdale dual enrollment program. Dr Charney explained that students take core courses in the HS in the morning and then take Brookdale courses in the afternoon. Questions were asked about why so

few students take advantage of this opportunity and how information about this program can be more readily available to students and families.

7. Graphic Arts Credits in HS: A survey was done asking high school students if they would like Graphics Arts credits to be counted for a tech credit or arts credit toward their graduation requirements. According to the survey 53% of students would prefer that Graphic Arts remain as a tech credit and 47% would like it as an arts credit.
8. Lesson Plans: Dr. Charney presented a template for lesson plans that align to state standards, which will be implemented the second semester of this academic year. Lesson plans will include a do now, small group work, guided practice and independent practice. Revisions were made to include accommodations and modifications for 504 plans and IEPs as per state mandate. Teachers can work together and collaborate on writing plans during the PLC (which is 1 period per day) in Village and Indian Hill. Please see a link to the lesson plan template here:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qrFRTCz1TvtGm9xmoy6HJfTCD5DMmWxsCmTCbB2mT7Q/edit>
9. Wellness Rooms: Approximately 70 students in the High school and about a dozen students at Satz have visited the Wellness Rooms. Administrators are keeping a log of the number of students and types of activities that are taking place.
10. Artist in Residence Programs: Dr. Seitz and Dr Charney met with representatives of parents groups from Village PSA, Indian Hill PLG, Satz PSGA, and High school PTSO to discuss how their monetary donation can make an impactful difference. Dr. Charney floated the idea that these monies be partially used toward an Artist in Residence program. Artists such as writers, musicians and painters work in classrooms in coordination with teachers. These programs can last a few weeks , a semester or a year. Young Audiences: Art for Learning provides artists and curriculums. An example is on the link to their website:
<https://www.yanjep.org/program/magical-math-stories/>
11. Genesis: Dr. Charney presented an example of the Danielson rubric in Genesis. The rubric has an example of the rating in the upper portion. The lower portion is where the reviewer provides evidence and a description of why the teacher should be receiving this score. There are 4 domains.
12. Practical Math: Dr. Charney recommends Practical Math as a capstone High school course for students with IEPs that are having difficulty fulfilling the math graduation requirements. This class would start in the 2022-2023 school year. A review of practical math classes offered in Metuchen, Chatham and Livingston was performed. The curriculum will be designed to concentrate on the foundation of math. Questions were asked as to why the district doesn't already offer a similar course.
13. Start Strong: Dr. Charney presented the state mandated Start Strong test results for Indian Hill and Satz. The outcomes reflect the Map and Linkit testing that was done by the district in the Spring. Between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ students exhibit learning loss. The summer enrichment program was sparsely

attended so many students who had learning loss did not receive remediation. To address learning loss teachers will create targeted lessons for students. Teacher leaders (formerly titled Interventionist coaches) will be meeting with teachers during prep period and after school to help form individualized student plans. Teacher leaders will provide example goals, methods and the set up of paper work. These personalized and targeted interventions will be based on data collected and will start immediately. There are two Teacher Leaders in Village and postings for Teacher Leaders in the other schools are up. Parents will be receiving individual scores as soon as they are available from the state. Questions were asked if the children who attended the Summer enrichment programs had improved test scores. Dr. Charney will be presenting the Start Strong, Access, ELM and AP test results to the Board of Education in the November meeting

14. Guidance: The Administration will be meeting with guidance counselors to discuss expectations and recommendations. Guidance has weekly department meetings chaired by High School VP, Ms. Thomas. Counselors are expected to meet with all students, not just seniors. Meetings are to be logged so trends can be recognized and addressed. The American School Counselor Association recommends that school counselors handle no more than 250 students. The Holmdel High School counselors are responsible for approximately 200 students each.
15. Special Service Complaints: Questions were asked about parental concerns regarding floating ICR teachers in Village Science and Social classes. This concern is currently being addressed by the administration. Questions were raised about parental concerns about Wilson reading in elementary which has been addressed and resolved by the administration.

Next Meeting Date: October Tuesday November 9th at 9:15 AM