

Holmdel Township Board of Education
Curriculum and Instruction Committee
May 26, 2010
Central Office Conference Room

Present

Board Members: Phyllis Pascucci, Robin G. Wetmore, Anna M. Vander Woude, Chiung-Yin Cheng Liu

Administrators: Barbara Duncan, Mary Beth Currie

Academic Integrity Policy-

This policy was discussed in terms of some of the board members concerns for faculty input, the need for such a policy at Holmdel High School, and the procedure and process of informing both students and parents. Mr. Richard Katz, Vice Principal of the high school joined the committee for this discussion. In terms of the need for such a policy, Mr. Katz explained that the faculty brought to the attention of the administration the need for consistency and fairness in addressing academic integrity issues at the high school. In particular, cheating on test, unauthorized sharing of homework assignments, and plagiarism. A committee of faculty, administration, parents, guidance counselors and students was formed to formulate an integrity policy. This committee reviewed academic integrity policies of other local high schools and some universities including Monmouth University. A policy was developed utilizing the above while addressing the unique needs of Holmdel High School. This policy was then presented to the faculty at departmental meetings and inclusive faculty meetings to seek further input. In addition e-mails were sent to all faculty members requesting questions and concerns. The immediate goal of the policy is consistency in reporting incidents of violations and fairness in consequences for students. All student infractions will be reported by the teachers to the administration. An additional goal of the administration and the district is to incorporate the philosophy of academic integrity into the districts character education program. The long term goal of the district is to have academic integrity become part of the overall culture of all Holmdel students. The district will purchase a computer program, Turn it in. com, with student/teacher accounts. This program will allow students the opportunity to have their research papers analyzed for plagiarism or inadequate citation prior to submitting the final paper. It will allow students the opportunity and learning experience of self-editing. It is the intent and hope of both the faculty and the administration that the students will actively embrace Turn it in .com. Parents and students will be informed of the policy thru parent meetings. The student handbook, student class meetings, and total student body meetings. The committee discussed the possibility of a letter being sent home to parents informing them of the new policy.

Technology Plan 2010-2013-

Mr. Anthony Gattini, Director of Technology gave the committee an overview of the Technology Plan for 2010-2013. The plan is to parallel everything else that is taking place in the district. Technology is to be infused seamlessly into all curriculum content areas. Staff professional development is also included in the plan and a “turn key” approach is encouraged to share what is learned with other staff members. The goal is not only to absorb the learning of new technology but also to produce.

Criteria for Enrichment Math-Grades 5 and 6

Mr. Brian Schillaci, Principal of Indian Hill School joined the committee to explain the expansion of the criteria for enrichment math—grades 5 and 6. The new criteria will allow for more students to be placed in an enrichment math class. The required score range on the NJASK will be slightly lowered to provide more opportunity to all students to qualify for placement in an enrichment math class.

Professional Development Plan 2010-2011-{PDP}

The district PDP was discussed by the committee in terms of the districts' innovative collaborative approach to professional development. MS. Lisa Imbro, chair of the Professional Development Committee {PDC}, in conjunction with Ms. Mary Beth Currie, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, updated the committee on the plan. A needs assessment was done through appropriate assessment tools to determine student needs. The staff then identified their individual needs in correlation to student needs. The priorities that emerged from an analysis of the above were differentiated instruction, technology infusion, character education, world language, gifted and talented and curriculum continuity. Teachers group themselves into professional development learning communities {PLC} based in each school based on their self-identification of individual needs. The PLC goals are supported by the district through the purchase for appropriate resources and the provision of scheduled professional collaboration time. All PLC are required to submit meeting logs and reflections as evidence of this collaboration. The professional development structure, process and procedure will be addressed by supervisors and administrators to ensure that PD learning is addressing individual teachers PDP. This will further ensure that PD is aligned with student learning needs previously assessed. The district also provides for additional PD opportunities thru graduate level courses, online learning and outside workshops. Annually the LPDC conducts a needs assessment and revises PD goals based on an evaluation of the new data.

Summer Reading

Susan Alston, Supervisor of Humanities, joined the committee to discuss the rationale for the addition of books to the summer reading list. The selection of books was expanded to provide more of a choice of topics of interest to students. In addition, the required reading choices were expanded for the Satz School and Holmdel High School.

HFEE Mini-Grant Awards-

The mini-grant awards include enhancements to technology and awards towards the World Language Lab. A response system was added to the technology of Smart Boards at two schools —“clickers” were provided for anonymous student responses during teacher instruction—This allows for immediate assessment of student comprehension of material being presented. Based on the student responses to questions, the teacher can immediately assess the effectiveness of the instruction, thereby providing for differentiated instruction.

INDIAN HILL SCHOOL

1. Drumming up Character	\$1500.00
2. Read to Achieve	\$1500.00
3. Enhancing Achievement Through Technology- “Clickers” Student Response System	\$1,009.00

Indian Hill Total **\$4,009.00**

SATZ SCHOOL

1. Hawk Internet Radio Station	\$1500.00
2. Enhancing Achievement Through Technology- “Clickers Student Response System	\$1,009.00

Satz School Total **\$2,509.00**

HIGH SCHOOL

1. Research on Holmdel’s Carbon Footprint	\$240.00
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High School Total **\$240.00**

GRAND TOTAL **\$6,758.00**