

Curriculum and Instruction Committee Meeting Notes

Monday, December 7, 2015, at 11:00 am

Attending:

Board Members: Chiung-yin Liu (Chair), Joe Hammer, Denise Kline, Lori Ammirati (via phone)

Administrators: Barbara Duncan, Robert McGarry, Marilyn Bellis, Alicia Killean

Items for Discussion/Updates

1. 21st Century Learning Goal Update—

- To collect baseline data, a survey was sent to the staff. 1/3 replied.
- Dr. McGarry will send the follow-up survey at the end of school year
- Dr. McGarry will present the findings at a BOE meeting in the future.
- The C&I committee encourages staff to continue to use technology in instruction, and suggests that the administration identify areas that need to be improved and assist staff by providing additional learning opportunities via PD days, professional learning communities, and peer observations.

2. PARCC Score Reports

- Dr. McGarry has sent out a series of emails related to the PARCC report card.
- As of the meeting date, Dr. McGarry indicated that the district has received the district PARCC report, but not the individual score reports for families from NJDOE.
- A presentation of district-wide results and how the district will use the results is planned for the December 16th BOE meeting.
- A special information meeting/workshop for parents will take place on December 21st. An agenda for the parent meeting will include general information and breakout groups for each subject area.
- Individual student reports will be mailed out as soon as they are received.

3. Homework Policy Discussion

- All teaching staff has been advised to review the current Homework Policy and Regulation #2330.
- The C&I committee suggested adding some wording in the area of communication between teachers and parents.
- Mrs. Duncan indicated there was only one concern brought to attention of the Principal at Indian Hill School.
- To assist teachers in evaluating the effectiveness/load of homework, the C&I committee suggested that administrators develop a sample classroom-based survey for teacher use and encourage teachers to send out a survey to receive periodic feedback from parents/students.
- While one group of parents showed their concerns with homework, another group of parents is advocating the importance of homework, and many have shared their concerns that their young children may not have enough homework to support their

learning, the C&I committee suggested that teachers may consider focusing on the differentiation of homework to meet the needs of students if necessary.

- The C&I committee encourages parents to contact their teachers for assistance and guidance as the first step to address any issue they have with their children's homework - (such as: too much, not enough, or other concerns with homework).

4. Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Tests

Math and Science Supervisor, Mrs. Killean and Humanities Supervisor, Mrs. Bellis joined the meeting to present the proposal,

- A new law has provided the district the authority to administer diagnostic assessments to identify the learning progress and individual needs for students.
 - Ms. Bellis and Mrs. Killean suggested that an assessment is needed for classroom teachers and administrators to identify the needs for individuals and make necessary adjustments in programs, curriculum, and instruction.
 - Ms. Bellis and Mrs. Killean have suggested that the Measures of Academic Progress designed by Northwest Evaluation Association would be a good fit for our district.
 - MAP assessment is not designed as a standardized test, it's a diagnostic assessment which can provide multiple aspects and result for individual, in group, class, school district.
 - The results could indicate not only the achievement status, but also the growth summary and projection.
 - Supervisors indicated that MAP is aligned with CCSS and Holmdel curriculum which could provide the reliable feedback that could adjust instruction and identify individual needs better.
 - Because the result could serve in identifying the individual progress and the needs which would support the differentiated instruction and different program placement.
 - It's a web-based assessment; it would easily take place during the class time.
 - Administrating Plan:
 - (1) 2nd grade, Spring 2015
 - (2) expand to grade 1 and 3, starting in Winter, 2016,
 - (3) expand to grade 1-8. (2016-18)
 - (4) cover grade 1-12 (2018-19)
- 3 tests a year (Fall, Winter, Spring)
- The C&I committee suggested that administrators might look for the possibility to use MAP assessment to replace the current metrics of placement criteria in Math and Literacy.
 - The C&I committee supports the proposal, and would like to recommend to the Board.

Items for Discussion and Board Approval

1. **New Course Proposals**
 - (1) Music Technology II
 - (2) Dance II

- (3) Economics
- (4) Introduction to Research and Design
- (5) Course Name Change as per revision: Introduction to Engineering and Design Principles (formerly Computer Aided Design)

2. Approval of Program of Studies-

C&I reviewed and discussed the 2016-2017 program of studies of William R. Satz School and Holmdel High School. Some revisions were needed and Dr. McGarry plans to put it on 12/16/15 BOE agenda for approval.

3. Approval of Donations

- (1) Mr. & Mrs. Victor - Indian Hill School (Portable Basketball System)
- (2) HHS PTSO - Microwave and Stand for the Commons

Next Meeting: TBA

**Sincerely Submitted,
Chiung-yin Cheng Liu, Chairperson**