



## Academic and Technology Committee

October 18, 2021 – In-Person Meeting  
2:00pm

- I. Call to Order at 2:05pm
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda (moved by Chambers; second by Lyons – motion carried unanimously)
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes—August Meeting (moved by Lyons; second by Chambers – Motion carried unanimously)
- V. Public Comment
  - a. Debbie Walton: encouragement to make high school scheduling a topic for future meetings.
- VI. Agenda Topics/Action Items

### ACADEMIC (Mr. Mitcham)

- a. Updates on COVID numbers, health/safety protocols, testing programs
  1. Review of current COVID numbers, pretty low compared to where we have been
  2. 620 weekly participants in covid testing program
  3. Test to stay is going well
- b. Staffing update
  1. Large elementary classes and potential for support staff (how are we handling para shortage and lack of volunteers and MSU students)
    - a. Permanent building subs are helping with support

- b. We have looked at other options, but they really don't work for our goals
  - c. Looking for ways to encourage more people to apply for para positions and attracting subs
- c. Curriculum Updates
  - 1. Middle school social studies
    - a. Social Studies committee is up and running
    - b. 5 curricula are under review, we want to narrow that number down in the next month or so
    - c. Pilot curriculum November – February
    - d. Report to A&T committee sometime in March or April; then to the who Board
    - e. All curriculum evaluated for its content, objectives, and potential bias
    - f. Committee is off to a good start—more in the coming months
  - 2. Reading Street Replacement/Literacy Curriculum
    - a. Just getting underway
    - b. First meeting is 10/25
    - c. Starting with more complete information than Social Studies because of ISD's review, which narrowed down options
    - d. Hope to pilot new curriculum in winter
  - 3. We may need to reopen curriculum review of MS science
    - a. Open Sci- Ed is not working out
    - b. We will get going on this as soon as possible
  - 4. MS math
    - a. Still exploring training opportunities for teachers
    - b. MSU training is not happening this year

- c. We hired a consultant to help with training and she will work with teachers throughout the year
- 5. African American History course likely coming online soon—finalizing details
- d. Student Representative(s) to Committee
  - 1. It has been in the announcements, but no applicants so far

## TECHNOLOGY (Mr. Palasty)

- e. Technology Updates
  - 1. Classroom AV needs to be updated
    - a. Technology outdated and breaking down
    - b. We put out an RFP, but little interest/availability due to supply chain issues
    - c. We put out a second RFP – hoping for greater interest
  - 2. Report cards and general forms in power school – trying to make sure preferred names are used. Christian is trying to reprogram and create workarounds for forms while complying with state requirement for legal first name
  - 3. Network audit coming up
  - 4. Device management is taking up a lot of time
    - a. We may need to revisit student accountability – especially for MS
    - b. More chromebooks for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders; Middle school is going through chromebooks quickly
    - c. Within 2 years, laptops should be phased out – chromebooks for everyone from Grade 3-12; K-2 will continue using iPads

- d. When everyone is using chromebooks, we will need to revisit contract with Windows – probably migrate to google
- e. Some elementary technology can be funded by 2017 elementary bond money
- 5. Technology infrastructure: HVAC is up to date, PA system at HS needs some work, and cameras—we have cameras to go around, but they probably need to be updated
  - a. Technology networks are being maintained – elementary network all new
  - b. Network switches in HS will be replaced in next 1-2 years.
  - c. Wireless at HS and MS are being replaced as they go out. We have a stockpile of wireless points because we preserved old items from elementary schools pre-Bond
- 6. Not concerned about financing technology upgrades at this time
- f. Remote classrooms and options for students unable to attend in-person
  - 1. Computers to check out
  - 2. Some teachers doing only online
  - 3. Some teachers still have google classroom interface

A. Future Meeting Dates

- a. November 15, 2021 @ 2:00pm

VII. Adjournment at 3:18pm