

WBOE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 17, 2019

Present: Lynn Piascyk, Chair; Dr. David Ross, Dan Cowan, Board Members; Analisa Sherman, Principal; Doreen Merrill, Assistant Principal; Monique MacDonald, Teacher.

Ms. Piascyk called the meeting to order (4:32 PM).

Public Comment – None

Summer Programs Update: Ms. Merrill presented a comprehensive review of the Summer Programs at Beecher including Recreation, Summer Enrichment and EDay. Many of the programs are taught by current Beecher staff (certified and non-certified) as well as former students who volunteer as part of community service credit. Questions were raised regarding fees and the applicable contributions / allocations in the operating budget. Discussion ensued regarding program offerings and how offerings are selected.

Presentation of Summer Curriculum Work Completed: Ms. Sherman presented a review of the summer curriculum work inclusive of Science, Math, Language Arts, Library Media/TAG and Technology.

- **Science:** Assessments were revised to align with NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards), digital assessments were created in Grades 5 & 6, study guides created in Grades 4 & 5 and new units of study were developed for Grade 6. All science assessments were modified to meet the needs of EL students in Grades 3 & 4. Questions arose regarding NGSS framework and what students are expected to learn and at what grade levels. Explanations of the standards were provided as well as various examples of projects and themes within the curriculum. Discussion occurred regarding modified assessments, how they are chosen, who does the work etc. including the use of materials and how assessments are modified for STEAM Lab and English learner students.
- **Math:** In Grades 1 & 2 lessons were organized to include fact fluency work throughout the year, a new resource Dynamo Math, was reviewed and content standards for Units 1 & 2 were mapped out. Questions were raised regarding standards and the differentiation of instruction around the standards.
- **Language Arts:** Word Study lessons were created for Grades 4 & 5, new initial screening assessments were developed for Kindergarten and verbal pathways were generated for the Kindergarten handwriting program.
- **Library Media/TAG:** TAG resources were explored and a plan developed for working with TAG students in the new school year, the fiction collection was reorganized and lost books were accounted for. Questions arose regarding TAG and who is teaching it, how it is being taught and how students will be serviced.
- **Technology:** A new website was created as well as webinars for site utilization, with installation of new access points in the new infrastructure, and iPads and computers were inventoried and stored. Questions were raised regarding what type of monitoring system we have for students when using technology (Gaggle), and the consequences for acceptable use policy violations.

Board Presentation Formats: Ms. Piascyk provided a brief overview for presentation formats. The purpose of the committee forum is to receive a high level summary of information for in-depth discussion in a less formal setting than a full Board meeting. Since committees do not have decision making authority, all decisions are made at the full board level, although the Committee could recommend a presentation be brought to the full board. Board members should keep all students in mind and not just a specific group or grade level. Presentations are intended to be 10-15 minutes in duration and it is expected that those in attendance have read the materials / meeting packet prior to the meeting. Individual staff members are asked to attend as experts who bring forth information and expertise. It is important that staff members be encouraged to attend committee meetings. As some topics are broader than others, the Committee may need to determine learning objectives of the meeting ahead of time.

November 18, 2019 Curriculum Report to the WBOE: Please provide anything you wish included to Lynn.

Next Meeting: November 21 at 4:30 PM with a presentation on Special Education / TAG Identification process. Future topics include a presentation on English Learners (EL) and TAG programming/resources.

Adjourn: 5:41 PM