

HARVEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT #152

Curriculum Committee Minutes

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

5:00 P.M.

Administrative Center

16001 Lincoln Avenue, Harvey, Illinois

Attendees present: Casey Nesbit, Gloria Johnson, Gabriela Delgado, Frank Kuzniewski, Marian Dowling, Jonathan Clark, Roxie Thomas, Phyllis Rozier, Norma Young-White, Superintendent Thomas, Carnisha Mayze, Christina Hackett, Karen Moore, Katie Graton, Kevin Micks, Durrell Anderson, Nicole Fishman, Carlene Herron Matthews, Dr. Treyce Criner, Superintendent Thomas

Call to Order - 5:01 pm meeting was called to order. We will change some items around on the agenda.

Summer School 2019

Ms. Nichols shared the 2019 Summer School program information (*see attached*). Last year we had a difficult time staffing teachers for summer school due to the pay; therefore, an adjustment was made in the grant to include a stipend of \$4000. This information will be outlined in the application. Qualified applicants for teaching positions will be selected on a first come basis. Questions were asked regarding the need of students in grades 1st & 2nd to participate. Ms. Nichols responded that funds were not budgeted for those students to participate this year; however, it will be included for next year. Additional discussion included the participation of students identified for retention and with behavior concerns. Ms. Nichols stated that all students are eligible to participate, however, Summer School will not be used as a means of promotion. Essentially we want to target those students who need the most support, however if a child wants to attend summer school for enrichment purposes, we need to allow them to attend if space permits, as all of our schools are Title Schoolwide Schools. Ms. Nichols discussed the proposed incentives to keep our student attendance up, which included field trips and possible bicycles if we can get support from the Foundation.

Stock Market Program

Christina Hackett from Brooks Middle School shared the Stock Market Program she utilizes with her 6th grade students. The program gives students the opportunity to develop finance literacy skills about investing. Students are placed on teams and compete with other schools. Each kid on the winning team will get 50 dollars from the Brook's principal to open their own investment account and invest in shares of stock. The goal is expand this program to more students at Brooks so that students are able to learn about financial responsibilities.

Professional Development Needs Assessment

Ms. Nichols shared the 2019 Professional Development Survey that will be sent to all district staff members (**see attached**). The group reviewed the Needs Assessment to offer additional input, and decided no changes and/or additions are needed.

Math Bowl 2019- District Bowl Winners

Ms. Dowling shared the names of 2019 District Math Bowl Winners. The students from the Brooks Broadcasting Club created a video of the winners which was shown to the group. These students will represent the district in the Regional Math Bowl on May 9th and May 10th at Prairie State College. Ms. Nesbit asked if information could be put on website and facebook. All schools were represented.

Social Studies Curriculum Committee

Ms. Nichols introduced Ms. Criner who has agreed to chair the social studies curriculum meeting. The Committee's first meeting is Thursday, April 4th @ 3:30. Ms. Criner gave overview of the goals and timeline as well as Resource Highlights from ISBE (**see attached**). The major goal for this year is to identify a new social studies textbook as our present book is about 20 years old. In 2017 the new Illinois Social Studies standards were adopted. We will be utilizing these standards along with the State's Mandated Guidance to develop a new Social Studies curriculum guide.

ELA Curriculum Revisions

Mrs. Graton and Mrs. Rozier shared the revisions that are needed on the ELA Curriculum Guides (**see attached**). Teachers were asked to provide feedback and recommendations for improvement. The ELA Curriculum Committee will reconvene in May to make all necessary revisions. These dates will be posted on the Google Administrative Calendar.

Classroom Technology Packages

Mr. Micks shared information on the Harvey Innovative Teacher Program Proposal (**see attached**). The program will provide 20 teachers in the district with opportunities to receive a classroom set of Chromebooks, a new Interactive Board, a document camera, Level 1 Google Educator Certification and intensive-ongoing professional development for instructional technology integration. Information will be shared with staff once the program is approved in the Title grants. Teachers will be required to sign up via Google and selected on a first come basis. Our goal is to repeat this program yearly, until all of our instructional staff have an opportunity to participate.

MTSS Updates

Ms. Fishman discussed her meeting with the Brooks staff regarding MTSS. She also shared information about the Healthy Schools Grant. The grant includes the following activities:

- Yoga for students and for teachers;
- Sound Therapy for students and teachers;
- Meditation Series;

Mindfulness Training - set of behaviors for being mindful of their behaviors; and
SEL Screeners - We are out of compliance with having screeners for Prek-8.

Instructional Support for Special Education Students

Ms. Young-White shared concerns regarding Special Education Students - Is there a law that states that a kid with an IEP cannot fail? If a kid who does not do any work ... how can you give them a passing grade? Is the teacher mandated to give the kid a passing grade? Superintendent Thomas stated that we cannot give our opinion on this issue. We have attorneys that will be able to address this issue. It is inappropriate for us to continue this discussion. Ms. Young-White shared another concern - As a taxpayer and a parent, Special Education student are missing STEM, Art and all Exploratory Courses. Ms. Nesbitt stated that those questions will need to be emailed to Superintendent Thomas and he will follow up with a response. Ms. Nichols explained that the Brook's Master Schedule was designed for all students, regardless of IEP status, to attend PE and and Exploratory Course daily. We need to make sure we are not preventing Special Education students from attending these classes. Ms. Young White stated she will email her questions/concerns to Superintendent Thomas, and Mr. Thomas stated he will follow up.

Curriculum Items of Significance

Ms. Fishman stated that Dreambox will be synced tonight and each teacher will be getting an email for all of their students to have access.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Next Meeting Scheduled for Wednesday, May 8th @ 5:00 P.M