

**Manitowoc Public School District**  
**Minutes of Curriculum Committee Meeting**  
January 14, 2020

Curriculum Committee Chairperson, Elizabeth Williams, called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Curriculum Committee Members, Meredith Sauer was present along with Jason Bull, Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment and Pam Lensmire, Director of Curriculum and Instruction. Also present were Superintendent Holzman, Lisa Johnston, Catherine Shallue and Richard Nitsch.

**Lincoln High School Laude Update**

Lincoln High School Associate Principal Kyle Korinek and teacher leader Rachel George presented an update on the implementation of the Board of Education Laude system.

**Why this change benefits students and their learning**

1. Will recognize students for their own academic excellence instead of comparing them to peers
2. Encourage students to take more rigorous coursework
3. More equitable for all learners to have the chance to obtain honors

**How it will be communicated with all stakeholders**

1. First in effect for next year's freshman class (Class of 2024)
2. Presentation at this past December's freshmen orientation
3. Middle and High School counselors presenting at IPCs with families
4. Spring Open House
5. Monday Memo to parents in summer

**How Laude will work within our current systems**

1. Academic Excellence Scholarship
  - a. GPA → Laude Points → ACT (Board approval)
2. Flower Girls/Ushers
  - a. Top 40/12 based on Laude score
3. Calculating the Laude points
  - a. Hand calculate. Working with IC to build into SIS.
4. Notation on the Graduation program
  - a. Program distinction
5. Academic Awards night
  - a. Plaques/letters/pins to be Laude based

**Out of State Travel Request**

Each year the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics holds a three-day annual meeting and conference. By holding their annual meeting for members at the national conference, NCTM provides extensive professional development opportunities around the actual meeting times each day. As president of the Wisconsin Mathematics Council, Lori Williams will

represent the WMC in the affiliate meetings and be able to share the state of mathematics education and the needs of Wisconsin mathematics educators with the leaders of the NCTM.

In addition, Lori will have the opportunity to attend many keynote and breakout sessions that will increase her knowledge and skills. Specifically, Lori be learning about strategies that promote equity in mathematics education so that ALL students of ALL colors are successful in learning important mathematics. I'll be trying to answer these questions and then sharing the answers through the pathways noted below.

The Wisconsin Mathematics Council will pay all travel expenses including conference registration for Lori to attend the NCTM Conference from April 1-4, 2020. With this, there will be no costs associated with this opportunity for the district.

Meredith Sauer made a motion to approve the requested travel. Elizabeth Williams seconded the motion. All approved moving the out of state travel forward to the full Board.

### **Out of State Travel Request**

The IB Sciences (IB Bio, IB Physics, IB Environmental Systems) would like to request an out of state student field trip to Batavia, IL. The team would like to visit Fermilab, a particle physics lab where they perform experiments involving the very smallest particles known. Many scientific discoveries have happened here including the discovery of multiple particles (quarks), and are continuing to happen concerning neutrinos, dark matter, and dark energy. The reason for the visit has three main points:

1. This is an excellent opportunity for students to experience a professional scientific community representing many countries from around the world.
2. This trip would satisfy an IB collaboration requirement that students need to complete.
3. One of the topics that IB Physics covers is Nuclear Physics, and the experiments and discoveries made at Fermilab are extremely relevant to the material that teachers cover.

The cost of the bus will be \$1200 minus \$10 from each student going, so \$700 total.

Meredith Sauer made a motion to approve the requested travel. Elizabeth Williams seconded the motion. All approved moving the out of state student field trip forward to the full Board.

### **Parent and Student Engagement Survey Update**

Pamela Lensmire and Jason Bull shared 2019-2020 Parent and Student Engagement Survey data and plans and actions related to the use of the data to strengthen student and parent experiences within our schools.

The **Student Engagement Survey** is centered on the following indexes on a four point scale:

- Connectedness
- Drive
- Citizenship
- Preparation
- Social and Emotional Aptitude
- Wellness
- Academic and Career Planning (grades 6 and above)

Pam and Jason shared 2019-2020 average scores within each index, comparison averages and three year trends.

The **Parent Engagement Survey** is centered on the following indexes on a five point scale:

- Culture of Educational Excellence
- Effective Teaching
- Safe and Healthy School Climate
- Leadership
- Sense of Community

Pam and Jason shared 2019-2020 average scores within each index and comparison averages.

Meredith Sauer made a motion to adjourn at 7:02pm. Elizabeth Williams seconded the motion.