

Manitowoc Public School District
Minutes of Curriculum Committee Meeting

February 10, 2020

Curriculum Committee Chairperson, Elizabeth Williams, called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. Curriculum Committee Members, Meredith Sauer and Dave Nickels were present along with Jason Bull, Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment, Pam Lensmire, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Joanne Metzen, Director of Pupil Services. Also present were Superintendent Holzman, Lisa Johnston, and David Longmeyer.

Winter Miracle Splash Donation

Joanne Metzen, Director of Pupil Services, presented information about a donation from The Winter Miracle Splash Group. The donation includes four pieces of equipment totaling approximately \$7,150.00 and includes a swing, bubble tube with plinth, and a spin disk. A motion to approve the donation was made by Elizabeth Williams and seconded by Dave Nickels. All approved of moving the request forward to the full Board.

Middle School Update

Wilson Middle School Principal, Cory Erlandson, and Washington Middle School Principal, Lance Masters, presented an update on the implementation of the middle school model the Board approved last spring. Since the beginning of quarter 2 both leaders have worked with staff members to identify positives stemming from the middle level schedule and model and components of the schedule and model that may need revising. The staff feedback pointed to the following areas as challenges:

1. Intervention for 7th and 8th grade students results in students being pulled for a period of time from electives.
2. There are two different report card formats for the middle school--6th grade is standards-based while 7th and 8th grade is conventional.
3. The large number of elective offerings and three specific periods in which to offer them at 7th and 8th grade have resulted in it being difficult for students to get the courses they select as their top choices.

The middle level leaders worked with leadership teams to look further into these challenges and develop potential solutions. In addition, students were surveyed to gather their insights related to interventions and enrichments at the 7th and 8th grade levels. Feedback sessions were also held with middle level teacher leaders representing the following content areas: Art, Business Education, Family & Consumer Education, Music, and Technical & Career Education. From these activities the following solutions have been developed:

1. Addition of FLEX class
2. Elimination of Younique Art
3. Elimination Art Gallery
4. Redesign of Contemporary Sewing to Sewing and Design
5. Report Card development timeline

Cory and Lance hosted a parent meeting to share the above ideas and gather feedback. Finally, these plans were once again shared with all staff members within Washington and Wilson Middle Schools.

A request for approval of the FLEX and Sewing and Design courses and elimination of Younique Art and Art Gallery courses was made by Lance Masters. A motion to approve the addition of the two new courses and elimination of two Art courses was made by Meredith Sauer and seconded by Dave Nickels. All approved of moving these requests forward to the full board.

Cory and Lance shared the report card development timeline and answered several questions related to ensuring student feedback is considered and the possibility of creating a hybrid model of grading for learning.

Out of State Travel Requests

Lee Thennes presented several requests for out of state travel from members of the Lincoln High School staff. The illumiBOTi robotics team requested permission to travel to Duluth, MN from March 4 - 8, 2020 for the First Robotics Competition regional to compete with and against other robotics teams from around the world. Students pay the cost of the bus transportation and overnight accommodations. District allocations will be utilized to cover the \$400 in substitute costs.

Meredith Sauer made a motion to approve the requested travel. Dave Nickels seconded the motion. All approved moving the request forward to the full Board.

Lee Thennes presented a request for the Lincoln High School football offensive coaching staff to attend the Air Force Academy Spring Football Practice in Colorado Springs, CO, February 19-22, 2020. The members of the coaching staff are looking forward to the opportunity to access one of the best taught programs in the entire country. By utilizing the Air Force Academy coaches and their practices this will allow the staff to model concepts, skills, techniques and drills that will assist both players and coaches development and improved understanding of their offense. The information gained will be applied to the youth of Manitowoc, WI from as early as 5th grade through 12th grade. Football monies will be utilized to pay the cost of all travel, lodging and associated fees. District allocations will be utilized to cover the \$600 in substitute costs.

Dave Nickels made a motion to approve the requested travel. Meredith Sauer seconded the motion. All approved moving the request forward to the full Board.

Lee Thennes presented a request for a Lincoln High School mathematics educator to attend the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Annual Meeting and Exposition in Chicago, IL., April 1-4, 2020. This conference will provide an opportunity to engage in workshops, presentations and keynotes centered on mathematics learning focused on implementing college and career readiness standards in mathematics. Lincoln High School

allocations will be utilized to pay for all travel, lodging, and conference fees. District allocations will be utilized to cover the \$300 in substitute costs.

Meredith Sauer made a motion to approve the requested travel. Dave Nickels seconded the motion. All approved moving the request forward to the full Board.

A request was made to provide the members of the Curriculum Committee an update around key takeaways and subsequent work within the district stemming from conference attendance.

Lee Thennes presented a request for a team of Lincoln High School educators to travel to Iron River, MI with up to 50 students March 12, 2020. Skiing is a life-long physical activity that gives students and adults a physical outlet during the winter. Introducing high school students to this activity through school gives them an opportunity to try it at an affordable cost. Students get the chance to be physically and mentally challenged through this sport. Students get the opportunity to build new relationships with peers in a non-traditional school setting. Through participation in this ski trip, all students will engage in each one of the National and State Physical Education standards. Students pay \$47 to cover the cost of the bus transportation and associated fees. Scholarships are available for students who want to participate but cannot afford the cost. District allocations will be utilized to cover the \$400 in substitute costs.

Dave Nickels made a motion to approve the requested travel. Meredith Sauer seconded the motion. All approved moving the request forward to the full Board.

Curriculum Committee Learning Walk

A confirmation of plans to engage in a Learning Walk at Jackson Elementary School March 17, 2020 occurred. More details will be shared as we approach this date.

Meredith Sauer made a motion to adjourn at 5:53pm. Dave Nickels seconded the motion. All approved adjournment.