

Manitowoc Public School District
Minutes of Curriculum Committee Meeting

June 11, 2019

Curriculum Committee Chairperson, Elizabeth Williams, called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Curriculum Committee Members, Meredith Sauer and Dave Nickels, were present along with Jason Bull, Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment, Lori Williams, MPSD Math Specialist, and Pam Lensmire, Director of Curriculum and Instruction. Also present was Superintendent Holzman.

Staff Travel

Jason Bull presented a proposal for a LHS social studies teacher to attend the Advanced Placement Summer Institute at Northwestern University in Chicago, IL on July 8 - 11, 2019. The approximate cost of sending this staff member to the institute will be \$1,700, which will be covered through the social studies and LHS budgets. There is a training in Madison, but it conflicts with the staff member's schedule. Chicago is the next closest training site as the other trainings available are in Vermont, Michigan, California, Arizona, Florida, and Colorado. The teacher will be teaching AP Psychology next year. The institute is designed for teachers who are new to teaching the AP curriculum. The training received prepares them to support all learners.

Dave Nickels made a motion to move the proposal forward. Meredith Sauer seconded the motion. The motion carried and will move forward to the full Board.

LIVE Trip-Spain

To continue the partnerships that MPSD has developed with partner schools abroad (in France, Germany and Spain) and to provide students with the opportunity to gain first hand-experience in a target culture, Jason Bull presented a proposal for Spanish students to participate in a LIVE trip to Spain, June 19 - July 7, 2020. Spanish Live is a ½ credit course that appears on the students' high school transcripts. Students attend pre-departure world language classes along with their fellow travelers and teachers, working to prepare for the exchange. The pre-departure classes and coursework are tailored to each exchange and are not a part of the students' regular language classes or coursework. The cost is approximately \$3000 - \$3200 per student, with multiple opportunities for scholarships. The approximate cost to the district for compensating staff to supervise students on the trip is \$3,200 - \$9,600, depending on the number of students who participate.

Dave Nickels made a motion to move the proposal forward with the stipulation that, if the cost to the district goes above \$9600, it be brought back to the Curriculum Committee for approval. Elizabeth Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried and will move forward to the full Board.

LIVE Trip-Germany

Jason Bull presented a proposal for German students to participate in a LIVE trip to Germany, June 15 - July 4, 2020. The cost is approximately \$3000 per student, with multiple opportunities for scholarships. The approximate cost to the district for compensating staff to supervise students on the trip is \$4,000 - \$8,000, depending on the number of students who participate.

Meredith Sauer made a motion to move the proposal forward. Dave Nickels seconded the motion. The motion carried and will move forward to the full Board.

Math Resource Adoption

Lori Williams, the MPSD Math Specialist, presented information on the Gr. K - 5 math resource adoption process. A small team of teachers has reviewed five sets of math instructional materials to determine which would best support our district vision of high levels of mathematics achievement for all students. There is consensus that the current Math Expressions curriculum does not engage students and is lacking inquiry-based, hands-on learning experiences. The team has determined that the Bridges curriculum resource developed by the Math Learning Center team would offer an engaging and rigorous mathematics experience for students. The curriculum allows for an engaging whole class lesson along with opportunities for teachers to intervene with students who need additional support. The 80-minute math block includes a 40-minute whole class inquiry component, 20-minute workplace (center) time with games and partner activities for building skills and fluency during which the teacher can engage in intervention, enrichment and formative assessment with students in small groups, and a 20-minute number corner component for supporting students to build number sense and estimation skills in the critical focus areas of each grade level. Next steps in the adoption process include the development of a communication plan for staff, both administrators and teachers, and parents. The implementation process is a 3-year model with professional development occurring in Year 1, implementation in Year 2, and opportunities for review and refinement of practices in Year 3. More information will be brought forth to the Board in August, along with a recommendation for approval.

Summer Teaching, Learning, Technology and Assessment Information Session

Jason Bull and Pam Lensmire inquired about the possibility of a meeting with the Curriculum Committee on July 18, 2019 to provide some updates on district happenings in the areas of teaching, learning, technology, and assessment. The committee members approved the meeting for July 18, 2019, 12:00pm - 2:00pm.

Dave Nickels made a motion to adjourn the Curriculum Committee. Meredith Sauer seconded the motion. The Curriculum Committee meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.