



EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 19, 2021

Virtual Meeting - 8:30 A.M.

Committee Members: Carol Hample, Chair

Anthony Emmons, Carolyn Podgorski, Thomas Wallace (abs), Beth Fiore (alt)

Administrative Staff: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent of Schools

Staci Beegle, Director of Pupil Services (abs)

Jason Bohm, SBA/Board Secretary

Dr. Stacey Brown, Humanities Supervisor

Sarah Pauch, Math, Science, Tech Supervisor

Sherry Krial, PD/Tech Supervisor (abs.)

Anthony Tumolo, SEL Supervisor

Jim Belske, Technology Coordinator

Minutes

1. Curriculum Revisions

- a. Algebra I, II, Math Grade 4: The only changes are in the Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills and Computer Science section.
 - i. Career ready practices
 - ii. Career Awareness exploration and preparation
 - iii. Life literacies and key skills
 - iv. Computer Science

2. Parent-Focused PD

- a. Pilot a Parent PD via one-on-one at student dismissal K-3. Have a conversation and provide a packet to the parent, and follow up in a month to see if they worked on the skill with their student.

3. Mentoring Plan and District Professional Development Plan

- a. Mentoring plan outlines how we support new staff, designed for new teachers and those new to Readington.
- b. PD plan outlined: Professional Learning Goals (6 goals), Professional Learning Activities (6 activities), and New Jersey state mandated training.

4. Field Trips

- a. Regular field trips for approval; will be reviewed as needed based on pandemic situation

5. Temple University study: "Connections between Fraction Knowledge and Algebra: Impacts of Learning during COVID"

- a. Optional survey to parents and to students to identify how the known relationship between fraction learning and algebra learning is impacted when students' learning of either fractions or

algebra content is disrupted. The study will also investigate how aspects of students' personality, motivation, and experiences—known influencers of students' learning in even the best of times—moderate the impact of disruptive instruction on their eventual mathematics learning trajectory.

- b. We would investigate how the results and partnership with Temple University could be beneficial to Readington

6. Reopening Plans

- a. Discussed different options for remote learning based on demand
 - i. Chronic medical conditions who will receive at-home instruction
 - ii. "Office hours" and virtual tutoring for students who need to quarantine
 - iii. Synchronous instruction if needed
- b. Chorus and wind instrument instruction outside when possible
- c. PE class can remove masks while maintaining a distance of 6 feet during activity and/or engaged in activity.

7. Strategic Plan Draft

- a. To be reviewed at Board Meeting 8/24

8. Texts for Approval:

- a. *Boots on the Ground: America's War in Vietnam* by Elizabeth Partridge (8th Grade Bookroom)
- b. *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz (8th-grade bookroom)
- c. *Getting Away with Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case* by Chris Crowe (8th Grade Bookroom)
- d. *Nat Turner and the Virginia Slave Revolt* by Rivvy Neshama (8th Grade Bookroom)
- e. *Mae Carol Jemison Astronaut and Educator* by Lemima Ploscariu (7th Grade classroom libraries)
- f. *Black Brother Black Brother* by Jewell Parker Rhodes (7th-grade bookroom; fiction)
- g. *Better Nate Than Ever* by Tim Federle (6th and 7th-grade bookroom; fiction)
- h. *Suspect Red* by L.M. Elliott (8th-grade bookroom; fiction)

9. Text for Discussion/Update

- a. *Best Man* by Richard Peck (HBS)
 - i. Committee recommends approval

10. Agenda Items: Mentoring and PD plan, Field Trips, texts for approval

11. Next Meeting: Monday, September 13th at 8:30am