



EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 26, 2022

Virtual Meeting - 8:30 A.M.

Committee Members: Beth Fiore, Chair

Randall Peach, Carolyn Podgorski, Thomas Wallace

Administrative Staff: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent of Schools

Staci Beegle, Director of Pupil Services (absent)

Jason Bohm, SBA/Board Secretary

Dr. Stacey Brown, Humanities Supervisor

Sherry Krial, PD/Tech Supervisor

Sarah Pauch, Math, Science, Tech Supervisor

Anthony Tumolo, SEL Supervisor

Jim Belske, Technology Coordinator

Agenda

1. Health and PE Standards - Mrs. Pauch discussed the [NJSLs 2020 Health and PE](#) standards, which are currently under review, but in the meantime can be found on the NJ DOE's website. There has been some misinformation about what the new standards include and also how much leeway the districts have in following the content. Basically, the State Board dictates the content and the district then decides how to present that content in an age-appropriate way. The committee reviewed a memo from the DOE stating that the State Board of Education adopted the new standards in consultation with experts in the field and it was "designed to address the needs of each student to gain knowledge and skills in caring for themselves, interacting effectively, respectfully and safely with others, and analyzing the impact of health choices." The updated curriculum is being written now and will come before the BOE for approval in either the September or October meeting. There will be an informational parent night PRIOR to the adoption of the new curriculum. The new content will be taught in Spring 2023, which is why the curriculum does not need to be approved before the start of the school year. As is the case now, parents will have the option to opt out of this classroom instruction.
2. Summer Enrichment Update - Mrs. Krial gave an update on the Summer Enrichment Program. The committee reviewed the list of facilitators, which will appear on an upcoming Board agenda. Registration is OPEN for all sessions, please visit the district's website for more information. Sessions will run the weeks of July 26 and Aug 2, 4 days each week, with both half day and full day options. Programs will include Art, STEM, Welcome to RMS, and new this year a 2 day Welcome to Kindergarten Orientation.
3. Summer Teacher Academy Update - Mrs. Krial updated the committee on the Summer 2022 Teacher Academy and presented the list of facilitators, which again will be approved in a later BOE meeting. Teacher academy is always well attended. 25 classes will be offered that align to district goals. New this year, the district will offer inquiry workshops for both teachers and administrators that will focus on using data to develop inquiry projects.

4. Field Trips, Assemblies, End of Year Events - Dr. Hart discussed the return of Field Trips, Assemblies, and End of Year Events. All activities can resume as normal. Assemblies have proven difficult to schedule this late in the year, so they will likely return next year.
5. Pride Survey - The committee discussed the Pride Survey that was slated to be administered to all middle schoolers this Spring. The survey helps to identify areas where prevention services may be needed. Because of the nature of the questions, Dr. Hart discussed the need for active permission from parents in order for students to participate in the survey, this is in accordance with our new policy 9560 Administration of School Surveys. Since there was a low permission rate from parents which wouldn't give an accurate picture of the students' needs, along with the nature of some questions, the committee recommended holding off on administering the survey and will revisit this decision in the Fall.
6. Texts to approve:
 - a. Blended by Sharon Draper. This book is a realistic fiction story about a girl growing up in a biracial family whose parents are getting a divorce and her experience with racial microaggressions. (Fiction, 6th grade bookroom)
7. Next Meeting: May 27 at 8:30am