



EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 1, 2023

Virtual Meeting - 8:30 A.M.

Committee Members: Beth Fiore, Chair

Randall Peach, Carolyn Podgorski, Justina Ryan

Administrative Staff: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent of Schools

Staci Beegle, Director of Pupil Services

Jason Bohm, SBA/Board Secretary

Dr. Stacey Brown, Humanities Supervisor

Sherry Krial, PD/Tech Supervisor (abs.)

Sarah Pauch, Math, Science, Tech Supervisor

Anthony Tumolo, SEL Supervisor

Jim Belske, Technology Coordinator (abs.)

Minutes

1. *Leader in Me* program at RMS Summary - Mr. Tumolo gave a presentation about the progress of implementing elements of the *Leader in Me* program at RMS into both the day-to-day and SEL curriculum. Counselors and Administrators held a book club over the past year and came away with ideas on how to integrate the 7 healthy habits into the classroom and also in the areas of discipline and student leadership. More to come on this topic. Additions to the curriculum would come to the board for approval.
2. Comprehensive Equity Plan (CEP) Report - Mrs. Beegle presented the Comprehensive Equity Plan Report which is due to the State this July. This report is done every 3 years and the intent is for districts to assess their progress toward equity and to produce actionable items if needed. Our district is compliant in each of the areas of equity identified by the State. The report is on the June 13 agenda for approval.
3. Sex Ed Instruction Report - Ms. Pauch updated the committee on the rollout of the new Sex Education curriculum that was presented to students in May. Parents and Guardians were notified 3 separate times in the weeks before health instruction took place, with the option to opt out of a portion or all of the lessons. This year, 5% of students were opted out of the Sex Ed portion of the Health and P.E. Curriculum. Last year, the opt outs were about 4% of the students receiving instruction, so there was no significant increase year over year. Several parents had requested to review material and after doing so, many allowed their child to remain in class. Students who were opted out were given an alternate assignment in the library. 2nd grade and 7th grade had the highest opt out rates of all of the grades. The biggest challenges were last minute opt outs and confusion for some students who were not aware that they were being opted out. There were no issues or questions requiring administrative involvement during the weeks instruction took place. Overall, Ms. Pauch and the teaching staff did a fantastic job of implementing the new state Health standards.

4. Accelerate Learning Programs Review: Dr. Hart gave the committee a final synopsis on the after school clubs that were introduced this spring and funded through ESSER/ARP. The clubs were hosted by YMCA, Littera, and Huntington Learning Center. They were academic based with educational objectives, all were very well attended. Parent feedback was minimal, but positive. The curriculum department will look at end of year diagnostic data to see if programs had a discernible impact on student growth. Math tutoring will be available this summer to eligible students. The number of students needing math and literacy intervention is shrinking. Final end of year assessment and NJSLA data will be presented in the October board meeting.
5. Lastly, we discussed the items to appear on the agenda: student teachers, summer ESY field trips, and inquiry consultant. The inquiry consultant has been instrumental in developing staff inquiry projects that led to publication and also the data conversation guide. This year her focus will be on working with RMS staff to further develop the 8th grade capstone, continue work with teachers in developing inquiry projects, reviewing and improving the data conversation guide, and supporting our instructional coaches who are expanding teacher inquiry.

Next Meeting: Aug 17 at 8:30am.

Summaries of Curriculum Revisions

N/A