

Curriculum Committee Minutes October 28, 2009

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Pana High School Library

Chairman Mizeur called the meeting to order.

Members present: Mizeur, Dively, Dodson, Hahnenkamp, Kettlekamp, McClure, McRoberts, Nicolas, Osborn, Wysong, and Strom

Members absent: Hicks, Duez, Lauff, Schafer, Hankins, Metzger, Rodman, Schafer, Zueck

Superintendent Present: Yes

Visitors: Cindy Denning

The committee discussed the following:

1. Approval of Minutes – 5/20/2009 Motion to approve minutes. McRoberts, Second - McClure
2. *Update on Response to Intervention Initiative* – Representatives from each school provided an update to the committee on the RtI initiative as well as the curriculum changes implemented this year. Mrs. Strom reviewed the changes at the high school. The Freshman Seminar. She reported a decrease in the number of F's received by freshmen. Also found that upper classmen would have liked the opportunity to have the class. Also reported that the students are approaching teachers more and there has been a decrease in discipline referrals. Mrs. Strom received training on the program and trained the other teachers. Teachers include Amanda Bowker, David Svezia, and JR Boudaris. Mrs. Strom also updated the committee on the Autoskill program that was implemented this year. The program is used in the Basic English class. 92 of 150 students are in these classes. Of these 80% are below 9th grade reading level. The program is self paced. Students spend the 1st 30 minutes of each class on it. Currently it is used only for reading, but the staff needs training on the math component. The High School is also adding a digital video class second semester. The class will be taught by Carena Watson and will be a dual credit class following the curriculum of Lake Land College. Fifteen to sixteen students have signed up for the class. Dr. Beyers would like to start and sponsor and club to do digital videos for the Foundation website he is working on. Funds from the Perkins grant and technology grants will be available to help with the class

Mr. Nicolas provided a brief update on the RtI program at Washington and Lincoln Schools. He indicated that they would be providing the results from the RtI reading program to the School Board in January or February. RtI Math is being piloted by Beth King, Christina Sloan, Beth Morrell, and Cheri Wysong. Mr. Nicolas also indicated that they have formed a writing committee to develop a writing plan that will provide common rubrics and terminology for Prep through grade 5. This could be expanded to grades 6,7, and 8. They committee will bring the plan to the Curriculum Committee for review and approval.

Kim Hahnenkamp indicated that RtI is wonderful, but there are concerns regarding how to find time to provide the interventions and how to assess students fairly when they are missing class time in subjects to receive the interventions. The committee agreed that this is a valid concern and a topic for future meetings.

3. Mr. Dively updated the committee on the process to develop the new 3 year technology plan. He informed the committee that he would be bringing the draft of the plan to the committee for their review and input.
4. Mr. Dively presented a Power Point to the committee on the benefits and procedure required to move from a Targeted Assistance Title I program to a Schoolwide program. The key difference between the two programs is that under a targeted assistance program, only those students that have been determined as eligible for the program based on multiple criteria can be served. In a schoolwide program, all students are served by the program. The condition that the program provide supplemental services and not supplant remains the same. The schools will have to participate in a year of planning and developing Title I Schoolwide plans for each school. The plans have 10 mandatory components that Mr. Dively reviewed with the committee. After the year of planning the schoolwide plans for each school will be presented to the Board for approval.
5. *Next Meeting Date* – December 16, 2009 6:00 p.m. in the High School library.

Having no further business, a motion was made by McRoberts and seconded by Osborn to adjourn the meeting of October 28, 2009 at 7:40 p.m.

Member

Member