

Curriculum Committee Meeting

Agenda

November 20, 2017

5:00 P.M.

Attendance: Dr. Melissa Varley, Charles Shanley, Linda Rozek, Yvonne Cali, Christy O'Connor, & Brian Silkensen

Curriculum:

1. ELA Update

- Data meetings have been conducted with K-5 teachers to review student reading levels, and to allow for teachers to share their goals, and have a voice in the planning of professional development. Teachers have unanimously asked for more parent support with reading at home.
- November/December Goal- Facilitating data based conferences with parents & communicating running record and writing rubric progress through report cards.
- Two parent nights were offered in November- one for BSI parents K-5, and a second that was an overview of workshop
- Teachers have received training in the form of faculty meetings, team meetings, and ½ day professional development sessions to prepare teachers for assessment training.
- Report Card Training materials

2. Skype with a Scientist - RMS - Update

- Jayme Russo organized an opportunity to SKYPE with a Scientist from Virginia Commonwealth University with the Integrative Life Sciences.
- Students grade 6-8 students were able to ask the scientist questions and find out specifics about his job.
- The curriculum is spiraled so each grade level cover life science.

3. December Conferences Trainings

- During faculty meetings, the expectations for the parent conferences were conveyed to the staff.
- Brian Silkensen and Christy O'Connor videotaped a parent conference and the video was played at the Briarwood/Brooklake faculty meeting on 11/20/17. We shared the video with the staff so that they could reference it as they prepare for the conferences.
- The staff was shared an ELA and Math checklist for the conferences.

4. Field Trip Requests

- Discussed a change of procedures for field trips next school year.
- Brian Silkensen will meet with each grade level team to discuss next year's grade level field trips. The following are the items that will be discussed during the team meetings:
 - i. Determine two grade level field trips that are an integral parts of the grade level's curriculum.
 - 1. If an opportunity opens up during the school year for a grade level field trip, the trip must be presented to the curriculum council prior to adding to the board agenda for approval.
 - ii. This will provide consistency from year to year
 - iii. Students will know what to look forward to each year.

- iv. This will provide an easier time to schedule the field trip, while the curriculum is being taught.
 - o 3rd Grade Trips
 - i. NJPAC Janet's Planet
 - 1. Using the arts to understand topics. Example: Gravitational Pull
 - ii. Life Time Fitness Trip
 - o 5th Grade Washington DC trip
5. Future Ready Schools - New Jersey
 - o Dr. Varley has made to pledge to become a Future Ready School.
 - o Dr. Varley and Jim Stiles will attend a meeting in December which will review the steps to get a Future Ready School Certification
6. National Junior Honor Society Update
 - o Packets will be distributed to all of the 7th and 8th Grade students about the qualifications of the National Junior Honor Society.
 - o The qualification process will take place during December and January.
 - o Letters will be sent home to each of the students that qualified for the program.
7. RMS building STEM activity for Wednesday, November 22
 - o Ridgedale held a school wide STEM activity on November 22
 - o Ridgedale staff performed the STEM activity at the faculty meeting on November 20, so that the teachers were able to experience the activity prior to the students.
 - o Karen Stein and Nick Esposito put the activity together.
8. Math Update
 - o Denis Sheeran demonstrated lessons so that the teachers could see the concepts they have been learning about implemented in front of their students.
 - o Brian Silkensen and Brian McParland attended the FEA workshop entitled Now That You Are Listening To Your PARCC Math Data
 - i. The workshop focused on the two areas of need for our district.
 - 1. Reasoning
 - 2. Modeling Mathematics
 - ii. The workshop reinforced the concepts that Denis Sheeran has been covering with the students
9. Using Data to Move It & Prove It Workshop presented by Tracey Severns
 - o Brian Silkensen, Beth Karl, & Brian McParland will attend this workshop to uses the PARCC data from our district to formulate action plans to address areas of need