

Curriculum Committee Minutes

March 28, 2024

Present : Cindy Luty, Chair, Members: Deborah Grabarek, Dr. Roy Seitsinger, Christopher Pickett

Approval of the minutes (January 23, 2024)

Old Business:

1. Math Program Selection Update:

After investigating and viewing live demonstrations from all companies being considered, the teachers have selected two that will best serve the elementary grades and the middle school grades. Go Math has been chosen for grades K - 5. It is a more traditional, user friendly platform providing a solid foundation for the early grades. Into Math is the program of choice for grades 6 - 8. It has a more abstract foundation than Go Math, better suited for the later grades. The programs will be presented to the Board for adoption and purchase will be included in the 2025 - 2026 budget for implementation beginning in the fall of 2025.

2. PDEC Teacher Evaluation Update:

Based on models of what needs to be done, there is a lot more work to do in developing the new teacher evaluation rewrite. It needs to encourage teachers to think about what they are doing and how they can further their professional growth. There has to be deep discussions over many meetings of the Professional Development Committee considering recommendations from the Administrative Association as well as some integration of ideas from CEA which tend to be less rigorous. To be of quality , it must match the model of the acceptable plan. The process

consists of the team meeting, discussing, and coming to agreements on the plan's details. There are only two months to do the work. The draft document should be presented to the Board by June and ready for implementation.

New Business:

1. Gifted and Talented Rubric:

The Gifted and Talented rubric needs much more work with people around the table to consider reasonable criteria for student identification. There needs to be direct input into the rubric. The OLSAT test and other cognitive testing are provided important data. Other criteria of the rubric including components such as leadership, participation, community service need to be balanced with the other more objective pieces of data. Some of the present requirements may be so onerous as to prevent some students from qualifying for the designation of gifted/talented. The present rubric needs review and potential revisions.

2. Vision of a Graduate:

How our 8th graders leave us is the goal for pre-k to 8th grade. Everyone has to be working towards that vision and everyone has to understand that. The Board of Education will look at the draft and make sure it makes sense. The Strategic Plan and the Vision of the Graduate are two separate documents but will be incorporated together.

3. Grading Review

There needs to be more communication with parents, such as in person presentations, regarding the rationale behind standards-based reporting of student progress and the benefits behind it.