

Vision: An exceptional, continuously improving learning culture, committed to all!

Mission: Portage Public Schools will educate all students to achieve their potential

Curriculum Instruction Council

MINUTES

Wednesday, November 30, 2016

Mike Huber called the meeting of the Curriculum Instruction Council to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Community Room of Central High School.

Members Present: Brian Abbott, Jennifer Bonner, Lisa Buchinger Aldrich, Andria Carson-Wright, Merrie Conner, Ben Critz, Zac Crouch, Andy DeVisser, John Dunlop, Donna Emerson, Gina Fisher, Rennee Flynn, Amanda Goyings, Amy Gray, Bonnie Herbert, Bryan Hill, Mike Huber, Wes Hyames, Jason Jarrett, Larry Killips, Colin Killmer, Jeanine Mattson-Gearhart, Effie McCarren, Rachel Messer, Amy Meyer, Tony Moon, Mae Orr, Karen Prater, Greg Rapp, Jan Rice, Mary Roobol, Anne Schnurstein, Kelly Schultz, Rick Searing, Lisa Stucky, Matt Tabor, Travis Thomsen, Molly Vandekoppel, Rhonda VanderVeen, Rosa Vergel, Dan Vomastek, Lindsay Wagner, Jeanna Walker, Karen Warner, Joanne Willson, Jessica Winstanley

Members Absent: Michelle Braat, Scott Cuel, Christy DeHaan, Amy DiMaggio, Tara Heywood, Kristin Kelly, Christy Klien, Elizabeth Kraatz, Rachel Kubinski, Eric Lancaster, Xiaoan Li, Peggy Link, Nancy Martin, Paul Murray, Ryan O'Neill, Rachele Reidel, Megan Richter, Shelley Rowlson, Pete Schermerhorn, Chuck Schira, Mahsa Teachman, Stephanie Wagner

Action Items:

Approval of October 19, 2016 Minutes

Jennifer Bonner moved to approve the minutes as written.

Mary Roobol seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Leadership Link Crew Course

Rick Searing moved to approve the proposal as written.

Jennifer Bonner seconded. Motion carried.

Informational Items:

Computer Science & Software Engineering Course

The Computer Science & Software Engineering Course was moved from an action item to an informational item. Dan Vomastek shared with the committee the current concerns with this course. Based on the software that is needed, the technology department would have to lower their security which they do not feel comfortable doing at this time. We will need to continue looking into this and working with the software vendor, Kyle Paffhausen, PPS Tech and KRESA EFE.

Early Middle College (EMC)

Larry Killips gave a brief update on EMC. For the last 6-9 months there have been numerous meetings with Lisa Bartell from KRESA, high school principals and then most recently an EMC committee. During these meetings Lisa went through several components of the program. We are on the verge of implementing the program for the 2017/2018 school year. The next steps will be working with the two high school principals, counselors, and Lisa for implementation.

Q & A on Early Middle College

Q. Will 10th graders in the 17/18 school year be able to access the program their 13th year?

A. Yes

Q. What are the different offerings that the district is thinking about?

A. There is currently a transfer agreement with WMU (that is conditional). We will need to learn more from Lisa Bartell about where they are with these programs before we can determine what programs will be offered.

Q. How is this program funded?

A. It is funded by the state of Michigan. The state foundation allowance for each student comes to Portage and then PPS will pay KVCC as students take the courses.

Q. Approximately how many students do you expect to be enrolling and how will it affect PPS staffing?

A. We do not know exactly how many students would be interested in this program. We do know a lot of parents in the community have been asking about it. Staffing changes would depend on how many students choose to do the Early Middle College. There may be opportunities for current PPS teachers to be adjunct teachers for the KVCC courses.

Q. Will PPS stick with just the current 8 degree options that are available or will we expand it?

A. More degrees could be added down the road. This will depend on KRESA and KVCC.

The complexities of this program are numerous including transportation, scheduling, rules and guidelines that students have to follow, students wanting to exit the program, etc. We are taking our time rolling this out as we want our students to be developed to the best of their ability.

More information on Early Middle College can be found on the following websites:

<http://www.kresa.org/emc>

<https://www.kvcc.edu/earlycollege/>

High School Math Textbook

Matt Tabor shared with the committee about exploring a new high school math textbook series. The current textbook series is the result of a process nine years ago that offered two different texts where students could choose which math route they wanted to go. The high school math department would like to find one textbook that is similar to their current text, but better. They are currently looking at two textbook series: an updated Prentice Hall and a Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Big Ideas textbook. The new series of texts would be used for Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II.