

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, March 15, 2017

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, Michelle Braat, Andria Carson-Wright, Merrie Conner, Scott Cuel, Andy DeVisser, Amy DiMaggio, Donna Emerson, Rennee Flynn, Amy Gray, Mike Huber, Jason Jarrett, Larry Killips, Christy Klien, Elizabeth Kraatz, Rachel Kubinski, Eric Lancaster, Effie McCarren, Rachel Messer, Jill Meyle, Tony Moon, Kathleen Phipps, Karen Prater, Rachele Reidel, Jan Rice, Megan Richter, Mary Roobol, Kelly Schultz, Lisa Stucky, Matt Tabor, Mahsa Teachman, Lindsay Wagner, Stephanie Wagner, Jeanna Walker, Joanne Willson

Members Absent: Lisa Buchinger Aldrich, Ben Critz, Zac Crouch, John Dunlop, Gina Fisher, Amanda Goyings, Bonnie Herbert, Tara Heywood, Bryan Hill, Wes Hyames, Kristin Kelly, Colin Killmer, Xiaoan Li, Peggy Link, Nancy Martin, Jeanine Mattson-Gearhart, Amy Meyer, Paul Murray, Ryan O'Neill, Mae Orr, Greg Rapp, Shelley Rowson, Pete Schermerhorn, Chuck Schira, Anne Schnurstein, Rick Searing, Travis Thomsen, Molly Vandekoppel, Rhonda VanderVeen, Rosa Vergal, Dan Vomastek, Karen Warner, Jessica Winstanley

Action Items:

Approval of February 22, 2017 Minutes

Mary Roobol moved to approve the minutes as written.
Michelle Braat seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of CHS Freshman Band Name Change Proposal

(Clarification of no CHS at beginning of title)

Jen Bonner moved to approve the proposal as written without CHS at the beginning of the title
Andria Carson-Wright seconded. Motion carried.

Informational Items:

Social Studies Update

TCI is the current textbook series used in the middle school which is subscription-based. Most textbooks have been moving in this direction. Since TCI is not currently aligned with social studies standards, the team is looking at other vendors to use. Two vendors have come to present to the social studies team and the team will review these two prior to bringing a pilot proposal to CIC.

Proposals:

High School Math Textbook Pilot Proposal

Matt Tabor presented the high school math textbook pilot proposal to CIC. The proposed pilot sites are CHS, NHS and one 8th grade Math Plus teacher at CMS for a total of 11 teachers. The two texts that will be piloted are Big Ideas and Carnegie Learning. Carnegie Learning is the best option to start with in the 1st marking period of 2017/2018 school year followed by Big Ideas. The goal is to find new books for Algebra 1, Algebra 2 and Geometry at all levels.

Processing of High School Math Textbook Pilot Proposal

Did the proposal/presentation have enough details to move forward? If not, what information do you need?

- Yes

What about the proposal helps us meet our District Ends and align with our Vision and Mission?

- 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 & 1.5
- The materials are crucial in the education of the students
- Mastery level

Has there been enough discussion time to move forward? If no, what type of discussion and what groups need to have input to move forward?

- Yes

Other processing questions/thoughts for the proposing team?

- Will teachers actually use the online portion?
As far as I know, yes. Everyone seems quite excited about both online components because they do much more than what we have now. The availability of Chromebook carts will ultimately determine how much of the online component we can use until the students get their own Chromebooks.
- What is the process to reflect on student feedback and will we see that?
We're going to create a Google form for a survey of the students. When the survey is developed (probably not until next year) I can share that with you, including the results, if needed.
- How does it align from elementary to middle school to high school?
One thing we're not familiar enough about is what elementary math teaching looks like. We only have some ideas from different personal experiences. What we know for sure is that elementary, middle school and high school follow common core standards and those should align the three, from that perspective. The approach of Carnegie is probably closer to what an elementary class might look like and Big Ideas should look exactly like middle school because that is what they currently use.
- Is the added expense of the Carnegie program worth it?
The Carnegie PD has extra cost and, due to the nature of the training, it seems like it will definitely be worth it. Even if we don't choose Carnegie we should get some very valuable PD on creating a student-centered classroom with student collaboration and problem solving.
- What if the book that is piloted first is so much better they don't want to move on?
We have made a commitment to the process, so we would not drop the second book from the pilot. We know that you ultimately can't decide one book over the other without actually using the books in the classroom for a reasonable amount of time.

Peer to Peer Course Proposal

Megan Richter briefed the committee on the Peer to Peer course proposal. Peer to peer means using students as positive role models for students with IEPs. It would allow students with IEPs to participate in regular classes, like having an “on the job” coach. The mentors would receive credit as an elective class. This elective course would be positive for both students receiving support and those providing it. There is a State Board of Education established curriculum that is free and available online. Please see the attached presentation for more information.

Processing of Peer to Peer Course Proposal

Did the proposal/presentation have enough details to move forward? If not, what information do you need?

- Yes, but would like to see the standards

What about the proposal helps us meet our District Ends and align with our Vision and Mission?

- 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 & 1.5
- Social acceptance
- Improve culture
- Critical thinkers
- Culturally sensitive

Has there been enough discussion time to move forward? If no, what type of discussion and what groups need to have input to move forward?

- Yes

Other processing questions/thoughts for the proposing team?

- How does this differ from the Link Crew program?
Link Crew is a mentorship program which encourages a smooth transition for incoming freshman. The "Links" from the link crew are not related to any Spec Ed programs or supports. The Peer 2 Peer students attend classes and provide daily support and interaction with their assigned students (not just helping freshmen) and have coursework to complete.
- What about attachment issues?
The curriculum has case conferences, along with journals for students taking the course to seek advice, problem solve, vent, share, etc. They are also encouraged to email or seek out the Peer 2 Peer teacher if necessary. These options help if any undesired behaviors occur and offer appropriate ways to handle them.
- Large number classrooms still possible?
The Peer 2 Peer teacher will work with counselors, admin, and teachers to look at class size and determine if having a Peer 2 Peer mentor student in the class is appropriate or not.