

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, October 21, 2015

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, Merrie Conner, Ben Critz, Scott Cuel, Andy DeVisser, Amy DiMaggio, Donna Emerson, Rennee Flynn, Jim French, Bonnie Herbert, Tara Heywood, Mike Huber, Wesley Hyames, Larry Killips, Colin Killmer, Kelley Kocher, Effie McCarren, Amy Meyer, Tony Moon, Ryan O'Neill, Beth Oudekerk, Karen Prater, Greg Rapp, Jan Rice, Mary Roobol, Tama Salisbury, Anne Schnurstein, Kelly Schultz, Rick Searing, Lisa Stucky, Jerry Swoboda, Mahsa Teachman, Rhonda VanderVeen, Thea Vaughn, Sara Wagner, Stephanie Wagner, Lindsay Wagner, Jeanna Walker, Helen Wynkoop

Members Absent: Rachel Bryant, Nick Bryant, Lisa Buchinger Aldrich, Ann Chapleau, Elizabeth Dancer, Christy DeHaan, John Dunlop, Kathy Elrod, Diane Falahee, Amanda Goyings, Amy Gray, Jason Jarrett, Christy Klien, Xiaoan Li, Peggy Link, Nancy Martin, Jeanine Mattson-Gearhart, Terri McDonald, Paul Murray, Shelley Rowson, Sharri Sackett, Pete Schermerhorn, Chuck Schira, Molly Vandekoppel, Rosa Vergal, Dan Vomastek, Joanne Willson, Jessica Winstanley

Welcome New Parent Representatives

- Scott Cuel (MBE Co-Representative)
- Elizabeth Dancer (MBE Co-Representative)
- Kelly Kocher (HAV)

Action Items:

Approval of September 30, 2015 Minutes

Amy DiMaggio moved to approve the minutes as written.
Stephanie Wagner seconded. Motion carried.

Voting on Honors Geometry and Algebra 2

A discussion ensued regarding the two Honors proposals. It can be difficult for students, parents, and teachers to select the most rigorous, yet appropriate course for students. Teachers make great recommendations, parents sometimes go off of the recommendations and students struggle. On other occasions parents go against recommendation and students do well. Topics of concern included having prerequisite tests for honors courses, a predictive data method to

make course recommendations, and how to clearly articulate honors course expectations to everyone. After a lengthy discussion, it was requested that we make motions to approve both proposals, but then make a third motion that a secondary task force look at all honors courses (not just mathematics) to understand and articulate rigor. Mike Huber said that we can form a secondary task force to continue to look at this.

Mary Roobol moved to approve the Honors Geometry Proposal.
Mahsa Teachman seconded. Motion carried.

Kelly Schultz moved to approve the Honors Algebra 2 Proposal.
Rick Searing seconded. Motion carried.

Amy DiMaggio motioned that the Curriculum Office support the work that needs to be done for all honors courses - not just these new proposals - that we have courses that are rich in student learning and differences between honors and regular courses are clearly articulated. This includes ALL honors courses MS and HS - ELA/Math/Science. Mike Huber will seek input to form this task force.

Jim French seconded. Motion carried.

Informational Items:

Human Growth & Development (HGD) Lesson Changes

Mike informed the committee of some changes to the HGD lessons. There are three components:

1. New lessons for 6th grade on gender identity and stereotypes (publicly available video)
2. High school lessons are the same new topics as 6th grade, but also include sexual identity (publicly available video)
3. Puberty video that will not be moving forward due to some of its content. HGD committee is going to explore new curriculum that contains video elements.