

**Boyertown Area School District
Curriculum Committee
December 1, 2015
Minutes**

Mr. Elsier called the meeting to order at 6:00pm in Conference Room A of the Education Center.

Board members in attendance: Mrs. Dennin, Mr. Elsier, Mr. Landino, Mrs. Usavage, and Mr. Stengle

Administration in attendance: Dr. Miller, Dr. Woodard, Mr. Scoboria, Dr. Faidley, Dr. Foley, Mr. Major

BASD Staff in Attendance: 0

Members of the Public: 9

Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and observed a moment of silence.

The minutes from the September 22, 2015 meeting were accepted.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Presentation and Discussion

Program of Studies

Mr. Elsier introduced Dr. Woodard who introduced the topic for this evening. Specifically she and Dr. Foley discussed the 2016-2017 Program of Studies for grades 10-12. These additions are based on student requests as we start to build the 16-17 schedule. We are looking for Board of Directors approval at the December 8 meeting.

Dr. Foley shared the current graduation requirements at the Boyertown Area School District. All core courses will administer an EOCA with the exception of courses that administer the Keystone exams. The Keystone exams are given in Algebra I, Biology and English Literature. All students need to complete either a career portfolio or the BCTC senior project based on student attendance. Starting in 9th grade, students will utilize Career Cruising, a web-based program designed to provide meaningful career oriented experience.

Dr. Foley explained there are some graduation revisions occurring this year. All current seniors and juniors who have not fully met requirements by the end of the senior year may not be eligible to participate in commencement. The current 2016-2017 students can still graduate if they can remediate and complete all requirements in the summer session. Diplomas would be awarded privately. The current sophomores (class of 2018), who have not fully met all graduation requirements by the end of their senior year will not be eligible to participate in commencement exercises.

Also, beginning the 2016-2017 school year, students who earn a B- or higher in a concurrent enrollment class/honors class will receive a 0.1 bump to their GPA. Students who successfully earn a final grade of a C or higher in AP courses will receive a 0.2 bump to their GPA/

Dr. Foley shared the addition of AP courses to the Program of Studies at Boyertown High School. These courses include: AP Psychology and AP 3D Art. There is also teacher training planned for AP Physics I & II, AP Human Geography and AP Politics and Government. There will be an addition of Computer Graphics to the concurrent enrollment courses otherwise known as dual enrollment. This is waiting for final approval from Montgomery County Community College.

The following courses have also been added: Adaptive Art, Introduction to Robotics, Coaching and Officiation and Fundamentals of Dance. During the Coaching and Officiating course PIAA certificates will be earned by all participants.

Dr. Woodard shared some additions to the Boyertown Junior High Schools' Program of Studies. These courses include: Adaptive Music which is a blend of life skills students with regular peer buddy students and Road to Success which is provided by the business teachers and helps with soft, financial and communication skills.

Dr. Foley announced the official names of the BASD Learning Academies: STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; Visual, Performing and Fine Arts; Global Communications; Business & Leadership; CTC – Career and Technology Center. Future updates will be provided as we progress.

Mr. Stengle asked if every student will be assigned to an academy and how will they select. Dr. Foley responded that each student will self-select an academy based on what fits them best. Mr. Stengle wondered if there are any cost ramifications related to the increase in courses. Dr. Foley shared there will be no additional costs.

Mrs. Dennin would like to know which group will be impacted by the change in graduation requirements. Dr. Foley shared that it will start with the current 10th graders or class of 2018. Mrs. Dennin wondered if students must travel off campus to enroll in the concurrent courses. Dr. Woodard replied that all classes are held in house and no traveling is needed. Mrs. Dennin really appreciated the innovation of the new courses.

Mrs. Usavage agreed that the changes look great but she didn't see the changes in the current POS book. Dr. Foley shared these changes will be added once we have final approval from the Montgomery County Community College. Mrs. Usavage questioned the rationale related to the increase in weighting of an AP course. Dr. Woodard and Dr. Foley both agree this will be a good motivator for the students to enroll in the AP classes.

Mr. Elsier and Mr. Landino both applauded the work with no added expense.

IT Student Internship Overview

Dr. Woodard presented Mr. Major who shared an overview of the IT Student Internship. Mr. Major introduced a new IT student help desk internship which is made up of 6 students who volunteer. These students started over the summer prepping PC's and distributing laptops. They

are now providing support to students during the school year. Four of the interns shared their experiences with the group.

Mrs. Usavage expressed thanks to the students for their hard work.

Mr. Elsier applauded the students and wondered if this is something we plan to expand. Mr. Major explained we intentionally kept it small this year due to the construction but next year we anticipate expanding the program.

2016-2017 School Calendar

Mr. Elsier introduced Mr. Scoboria who shared the 2016-2017 school calendar. Mr. Scoboria provided a copy of both Draft A and Draft B schedules. Draft A matches almost exactly to the BCTC schedule. Draft B has school starting after Labor Day and is not recommended by administration. We would like to seek approval at the next meeting.

Committee Comment

Dr. Faidley thanked all the students.

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Announcements

December 1, 2015 – Board of School Directors Reorganization Meeting, Ed Center Board Room, 7:00 PM

December 8, 2015 – Personnel Committee, Jr. High West Library, 6:00 PM

December 8, 2015 – Board of School Directors Meeting, Jr. High West Cafe, 7:00 PM

December 15, 2015 – Enrollment Review Committee, Ed Center Board Room, 6:00 PM

Mr. Elsier adjourned the meeting at 6:57 pm.