

**Boyertown Area School District
Curriculum Committee
October 28, 2014
Minutes**

Dr. Christman called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the library of Washington Elementary.

Board members in attendance: Dr. Christman, Mrs. Dennin, Mr. Elsier, Mrs. Hartford, Mr. Landino, Ms. Neiman, Mrs. Usavage, and Mr. Stengle

Administration in attendance: Dr. Miller, Dr. Woodard, Mr. Scoboria, Dr. Faidley, and Dr. Cooper

BASD Staff in Attendance: 1

Members of the Public: 2

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

The minutes from the September 23, 2014, meeting were accepted.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Presentation and Discussion

Dr. Woodard began the presentation portion by introducing Mrs. Rothenberger and Dr. Cooper who she explained would be presenting information related to the German American Partnership Program. Mrs. Rothenberger began by sharing information related to the current Germany trip. The trip is held during the school year over spring break which causes students and chaperones to miss two to three school days. Students stay in hotels and have most of their interactions with other students on the trip. She went on to explain that the new opportunity would provide students an opportunity to participate in an exchange program

This exchange program would be a partnership with a school from Germany which would bring German students to BASH and allow BASH students to visit Germany. During the exchange, students attend school and stay with a host family for at least 10 days. Students are fully engaged in the culture and life of the host student and family. Mrs. Rothermel asked if she could be allowed to begin this exchange program starting this year.

The student's cost would include airfare and any necessary spending money that a student chooses to bring and would be priced significantly lower than what our students have been paying.

Currently this program is being used by both Pottsgrove and Perkiomen Valley school districts.

Questions:

Mrs. Hartford asked how many students went on last year's trip. Mrs. Rothenberger shared we had 25 participate.

Mrs. Usavage asked how we would select students if we are only allowed 20.
Mrs. Rothenberger shared that there is an application process that would be utilized.

Mr. Elsier clarified that the cost is on the students. Mrs. Rothenberger shared students have been paying all expenses in the past.

Mr. Elsier asked if we would need a board action. Dr. Woodard asked if the board would be interested in us bringing an action item to a future board meeting.

Mr. Elsier asked what the feedback has been from the other districts, using the program.
Mrs. Rothenberger shared the grades and number of years the trip has been in existence in the other districts.

Mr. Landino asked how we can organize a reporting session for students to share information and experiences with students that did not participate. Mrs. Rothenberger shared that we would be able to do this.

Mr. Elsier asked if this trip would be restricted to a certain level student? Mrs. Rothenberger shared that this would be part of the application process and we would need to look at the numbers applying.

Dr. Christman asked for consensus on bringing this back to the board for a vote. The response was yes.

Ms. Neiman asked if there is a cost to the district. Dr. Faidley shared that there would be no cost to the district.

Next, Dr. Woodard shared a presentation on the Math Common Core. This presentation was a follow-up to work done at a previous curriculum committee meeting which focused on English Language Arts Common Core.

The presentation started with a Ted Talk video, by Dan Myers on the shifts that need to occur in math instruction.

Following the video, Dr. Woodard shared an overview of the CCSS for Mathematics which is made up of the standards for mathematical practices and the standards for mathematical content.

Dr. Woodard shared that students will be assessed on their ability to make sense of mathematical situations, find relationships, mathematize those relationships, solve problems about the relationships and justify their reasoning.

Dr. Woodard went on to share a comparison of problems from before the implementation and problems from after the implementation of CCSS.

Dr. Woodard went on to share that we have partnered with Drexel University to help work through the transition through professional development with our teachers. The training began on October 13th and will continue on October 31st.

Questions:

Mrs. Dennin asked if our current math curriculum is using the same textbooks that we did before. Dr. Woodard explained that K-3 is using Investigations which is common core aligned. Additionally, she went on to explain that the math book is becoming more of a supplement in many grade levels. Additionally, we have provided many supplementary materials to the teachers to help. Dr. Woodard went on to explain that currently there aren't any textbooks that are completely aligned to the core and therefore would require supplemental materials anyway.

Dr. Christman asked the group to hold any additional questions for a future meeting because of the need to move on to the board meeting.

Committee Comment

No comments

Public Comment

There were no public comments

Announcements

November 18, 2014 Curriculum Committee Meeting Ed, Center Board Room, 6:00 PM

Dr. Christman adjourned the meeting at 6:55 pm.

Motion to adjourn: Ms. Neiman