

Curriculum Subcommittee

Minutes

March 17, 2010

In attendance: K. Christian, D. Copp, S. Chisnell, S. Olson, M. Greening

Concern	Action/Decision
General	
What is the status of K-12 Committees? Will they continue to meet?	Math and ELA K-12s meet several times each year. Soc. Stud. and Sci meet 1-2 times per year. There are no plans to discontinue these meetings. Personnel time and commitment conflicts sometimes prevent more frequent meetings. If there are individual concerns that K-12 might address, please consult department heads, K-12 reps, or building principals.
Elementary School	
Report Cards: Will the district be mailing them?	CSC addressed this issue in previous months. This is largely a budget issue for individual building principals to decide.
Middle School	
Advanced Math program: Should this program be more inclusive or more selective, accelerated/in-depth instruction or advancing to future years?	This issue is a K-12 concern since it would impact larger curricular issues. CSC does recommend a more selective advanced-year curriculum (the curriculum is for the next grade level) over a pre-determined quota of advanced students. (This is more in parallel with neighboring districts.) While inclusiveness is important, criteria for selection should be based upon academic readiness, not x% of students.
Can ROMS receive updated math textbooks (a request to pilot <i>Connected Math</i>)? Current texts are pre-GLCE, pre-online support, and are in bad condition.	PD training for <i>Connected Math</i> will be set up this spring to work out details of how this might be done. (This is not a Boolean question.)

High School	
<p>High School: District Wide Tech PD (i.e. Pearson Inform, Moodle): Effective use of emerging instructional technology relies upon systemic consistent time for teacher training and professional work. Without this time we miss a valuable opportunity to analyze data which could drive instruction to increase student growth.</p>	<p>How do we find time to bring our instructional staff to new levels of quality of which we know we are capable?</p> <p>Some tech PD is more appropriate to building solutions and some for district. CSC recommends that next November's PD day be break-out sessions of which some will be technology training.</p> <p>Discussion of systemic PD determines that Joint Committee must address other no-cost solutions to finding time. Building administrators should also explore every opportunity to better use existing time for PD in their respective buildings.</p>
Around the Table	
<p>Data Analysis Privacy Statement: Concern that use of data and will it be used to assess teacher effectiveness.</p>	<p>Referred to Joint Committee and bargaining team.</p> <p>Student growth data is extraordinarily complex to analyze for reliability and validity and cannot be applied with a single formula to any teacher.</p>
<p>With the loss of Exec Dir. of Curriculum and Instruction, how do we guarantee that instruction will drive the decision-making process in the district?</p>	<p>ROEA concern: There remains no dedicated curriculum voice at the Exec. Director level.</p> <p>This is an issue for the superintendent and the Board of Education.</p>