

Curriculum Subcommittee

Minutes

October 21, 2010

In attendance: S. Olson, D. Pontziou, S. Lynch, S. Chisnell, K. Christian, K. Derminer

Concern	Action/Decision
General	
K-12 Committee Composition, Meeting times, Agenda, etc.	<p>K-12 Committees include Science, Math, ELA, and Social Studies. Other special departments (i.e. PE, music) meet separately. The functions of these committees revolve largely around vertical alignment of curriculum and curriculum design. The new Common Core may provide additional agenda items for all committees.</p> <p>Math and ELA meet 4-5 times per year; Science and Social Studies meet 2-3 times per year, based upon demands of state mandates.</p> <p>Calendars for this year should be set soon after the MEAP testing.</p> <p>Building administrators (Elementary) and department heads (Secondary) are responsible for communicating this calendar and finding committee members at each level when spots are available. Agenda items should be directed to the building's appropriate committee representative.</p>
Implementation of K-12 Math Recommendations from Spring 2010	<p>Several K-12 Math recommendations are being put into place now:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Extended math at ROMS is a 50/50 split between Success Maker and small group

	<p>instruction;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerated math is implemented at ROMS; • Recommendation to increase number of administrations of Explore and PLAN testing will continue to be discussed, mostly around logistics of implementation.
<p>Loss of Media Center staff is affecting instructional effectiveness. “A Media Center is the ‘hub’ for inquiry-based learning. It needs to be staffed and used” (Elementary IB visiting team). Parent volunteers are helpful and welcomed; however, they are not trained in inquiry-based instructional or in the skills to help teaching staff master new media. At the secondary level, the Media Center resources are limited access depending upon available staff. ROMS Media Center is closed for two or more hours per day while students are in the building. Elementary Media Centers are open for ½ day. Lack of access teaches students that a district’s valuable resource is not a dependable option for them, and thus not truly valuable. In a digital age, we need to set a goal of building momentum for new literacies and student engagement (including NETS tech standards).</p>	
Elementary School	
<p>What is the District’s spelling program? What resources are used?</p>	<p>The District’s resources include an early elementary consumable and upper elementary classroom sets of textbooks. This is an issue which will be referred to Elementary ELA Committee to review resources.</p>

<p>Curriculum Guides: Do they represent practice?</p>	<p>The District is moving to an online Guide which will be more easily updated. The Guides are not intended to be adhered to as a concrete rule, but a <i>guide</i>, a list of appropriate learnings for each grade.</p>
<p>Gradebook access. How can teachers get access to grading on Pinnacle more quickly?</p>	<p>This continues to be a complex issue of timetables, data entry, testing schedules, and scheduling complexity. The sooner final elementary schedules are complete, the sooner Gradebook can be used.</p>
<p>Middle School</p>	
<p>What is the rationale for 7th and 8th grade special education placements in 6th grade classes?</p>	<p>Referred to Special Education Dept.; CSC will follow-up with response at the next meeting.</p>
<p>High School</p>	
<p>World language coordination and curriculum issues between ROMS and ROHS</p>	<p>There have been no curricular changes in world languages in the past few years (i.e. French I at ROMS is the same as French I at ROHS). The middle school makes decisions about student scheduling in classes they offer; the high school does the same.</p> <p>The District will host a World Language meeting for 6-12 teachers.</p>
<p>Around the Table</p>	
<p>Student computers in each elementary school classroom will be removed. In RTI model of intervention, the first tier intervention is Lexia software.</p>	<p>A universal or blanket policy for technology use in the district (for cost-saving, etc.) has been issued. CSC encourages a conversation about specific instances and needs for instructional uses of technology.</p>

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