

Manitowoc Public School District

Manitowoc, Wisconsin

Board of Education Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2014

The Manitowoc Public School District Curriculum Committee met on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. Committee members: Dave Nickels, Linda Gratz, Keith Shaw and Barbara Herrmann (late) were all present. Also present were Superintendent Marcia Flaherty, Director of Elementary and Secondary Education Deborah Shimanek and Catherine Shallue.

2015-16 Course Proposals were presented for Career and Technology Education. Exploring Tech Ed will replace 4 courses. This allows all grades 7-9 students to explore a program integrating STEM practices. There was discussion about eliminating 4 course but noted this would be a more integrated program for all students. A motion was made by Dave and seconded by Linda and approved 4-0.

Advanced Woodworking and Building Trades presents students the opportunity to expand woodworking experience and building trades for grades 11-12 (change from original) with a pre-requisite of General Woods. This would replace 3 classes with low enrollment that have offered not be offered and expand the knowledge for students in response to input from local homebuilders. A motion by Dave and second by Linda with the course approved 4-0.

The Project Lead the Way will be expanding their curriculum with two new courses-Principles of Engineering and Computer Integrated Manufacturing. Both of these courses are offered to grades 10-12 with the pre-requisite of Introduction to Engineering Design (PTLW). This extends our course offerings and is supported through a proposed grant. It was noted that Principles of Engineering will be taught by physics teacher and could be offered also for a science credit. On a motion by Dave and second by Linda both courses were approved. It was noted that these opportunities should be promoted and acknowledged throughout the community.

Software Essentials present students the opportunity to explore the various software programs supporting college and career readiness skills in grades 10-12 in Business Education. This course provides a variety of software and Microsoft tools. Motion made by Linda and seconded by Keith to approve the course, motion approved.

The science proposal is a continuation of the implementation of Next Generation Science Standards in grade 9 and 10. These are integrated science courses-Integrated Life Science provides life science (biology) and ecology. Discussion involved instructor and higher education approval. It was noted that the DPI and higher education were consulted. The funding will come from undifferentiated curriculum and department budgets. Motion made by Barb and seconded by Linda, motion approved 4-0.

Integrated Physical Science integrates the chemistry, physics, earth science and astronomy content. These classes may be taken in grade 9 or 10. Motion by Linda and seconded by Barb motion approved on 4-0.

The next agenda items presented three applications for school trips for the Curriculum Committee.

Washington Junior High is proposing travel Tuesday, March 24-Saturday, March 28, 2015. There was discussion about the loss of school time of 3 days and the need for guidelines for travel during school year. On a motion by Barb and second by Linda a vote of 2 yes and 2 no resulted in the motion being defeated.

Wilson Junior High is proposing travel Sunday, June 7, 2015 – Thursday, June 11, 2015 for their trip to Washington DC. On a motion by Linda and a second by Keith the motion was approved 4-0.

It was noted the Board accepted the recommendation of the curriculum committee to allow the two Washington DC trips to be at different times while providing cross over for students that would prefer the alternate date.

The Music Trip will be traveling to Chicago on March 27-29. The trip was presented to interested families on September 25 with the understanding that it was pending Board approval. On a motion by Barb and a second by Keith the motion was approved 4-0.

A referral was made to the Curriculum Committee to consider policies for Student Travel in the future.

The third agenda item was review of the Building Performance Report Cards. It addressed the building overall score, achievement score, growth, and gap data for each school. This is one of the data sources used to establish School Learning Objectives in November.

Barbara Herrmann moved to adjourn seconded by Dave Nickels at 6:30 PM.

Sincerely,

Deborah Shimanek