

SALISBURY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CURRICULUM SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
TUESDAY, MAY 29, 2007

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The Salisbury Township School District Curriculum Subcommittee met on Tuesday, May 29, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Administration Building, 1140 Salisbury Road, Allentown, PA.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Feinberg, Mr. Gatanis, Mr. Giordano, Mrs. Heffelfinger, Mr. Mantz, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Pauloski, Mr. Reinsmith, Mrs. Ziegler

Administrators Present: Dr. Beauchemin, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Hume, Mrs. Morningstar, Mrs. Pflingstler, Mrs. Samide, Mr. Smith, Dr. Wright, Mr. Ziegenfuss

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Miller at 7:05.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of the meeting from April 30, 2007 was made and approved as submitted.

3. **TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION**

Mrs. Diane Kasaczun provided a presentation on technology integration in the HST 5<sup>th</sup> grade learning support classroom. Mrs. Kasaczun emphasized the improved levels of student engagement and student thinking as a result of integrating technology with classroom instruction. In particular, Mrs. Kasaczun demonstrated how the use of an interactive whiteboard provided multiple opportunities for improved student learning and student ownership of the learning process. Members of the school board commended Mrs. Kasaczun for her willingness to implement the new technologies into her classroom instruction. Mr. Ziegenfuss explained that plans are being formulated to increase the use and integration of technology into classrooms.

Mr. Ziegenfuss presented the proposed District Technology Plan. He provided an overview of the process that resulted in the formulation of the plan. Mr. Ziegenfuss explained the goals of the plan and the use of the technology budget to support the goals. He stated that the administration team will be meeting in June 2007 to prioritize actions for the 2007-2008 school year.

Mrs. Heffelfinger inquired as to the plans for updating the board on administrative decisions regarding technology. Mr. Ziegenfuss and Dr. Beauchemin explained that regular updating will occur at the monthly curriculum committee meetings. Mr. Giordano asked about professional development to ensure a continuity of technology integration. Dr. Beauchemin explained that Summer Academy workshops are being offered to staff to support technology integration. The new model of (12) professional development hours is being implemented to support implementation of new learning into classroom practice. Opportunities for teacher collaboration and observation of practice will be provided to staff as appropriate. In addition, blogs, wikis, and discussion boards are being utilized by teachers and administrators to support professional development and data collection and analysis.

Mr. Ziegenfuss reviewed a document addressing Laptop Policies, Procedures, and Information with the school board. Mr. Pauloski suggested adding a comment about students leaving a classroom with a laptop. Mrs. Miller asked the school board members to email any recommended changes to the document to Mr. Ziegenfuss.

4. **DISTRICT CURRICULUM COMMITTEE SCHEDULE – 2007-2008**

Dr. Beauchemin presented the proposed District Curriculum Committee schedule for the 2007-2008 school year. The initial schedule proposed all meetings to be held at the Administration Building. Upon suggestion from Mr. Mantz, it was decided that one curriculum committee meeting will be held at Lehigh County Community College and include a tour of the facilities. Dr. Beauchemin will contact LCCC to make the arrangements. The proposed schedule of meeting dates was approved.

5. **STUDENT HANDBOOKS – HST, WSE, SMS, SHS**

The building principals provided explanations related to additions and deletions in the student handbooks. Mr. Pauloski inquired as to the possibility of allowing students to wear flip-flops. After discussion, it was decided the ban on flip-flops would continue in all buildings to support student safety and uniformity of implementation. Mrs. Miller commended the principals on their efforts to develop consistency among the handbooks and for making the necessary changes in a timely manner. The student handbooks will be placed on the June 2007 school board meeting agenda for approval.

6. **READ-ON! PROGRAM - WSE**

Mrs. Pflingstler explained the involvement of Western Salisbury Elementary School in the Read-On! Program sponsored by Lehigh Valley Child Advocacy. Students raise money for needy youngsters in the area by reading books. Mrs. Pflingstler shared a video, recorded by WLVT, which highlighted Western students and their families supporting the program and actively reading. Mrs. Pflingstler commented on the positive opportunity to promote reading and a worthy cause.

7. **CURRICULUM REVIEW PROCESS - UPDATE**

Dr. Beauchemin provided a curriculum review process update by highlighting several initiatives within each of the curriculum departments and at the elementary level. In particular, Dr. Beauchemin commended the elementary staff on their three-year project to develop a standards-based report card. The staff is ready to implement the report card in September 2007. Dr. Beauchemin explained an English 12 course will be ready for implementation in September 2007 for students who have not attained a level of proficiency as defined by the Grade 11 PSSA reading assessment. The planned course will be presented to the curriculum committee in the fall. The department will continue to develop similar courses for students below proficient in grades 9, 10, and 11. The *LifeSmarts* class will be implemented in September 2007.

Physical Education and Health, Art, and Music are in Phase II of the curriculum review process. Recommendations will be presented to the curriculum committee in fall 2007. World Languages and Elementary Language Arts will begin Phase I in September 2007.

Dr. Beauchemin explained the teachers in grades 4 – 12 staff will receive professional development in Academic Literacy beginning in August 2007. This will be a multi-year initiative using the Reading Apprenticeship model, and the strategies will be delivered across the curriculum. CLIU facilitators are teaming with Reading Apprenticeship trained Salisbury teachers to provide the training and support. Teachers in grades K-3 will receive professional development in the area of Primary Literacy.

Mrs. Miller commended Dr. Beauchemin on her efforts throughout the year with the Curriculum Review Process and the various curriculum initiatives.

8. **OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Miller explained that the school board has charged the administration with gathering data related to full day kindergarten programs for all students or academic at-risk students. Mrs. Miller recommended expanding the collection of data to include Pre-K programs to determine if academically at-risk students would be better served at a younger age than through full day kindergarten programs. Dr. Beauchemin stated that the data collection would investigate the potential of Pre-K and full day kindergarten programs. The data will be shared with the school board at the September 2007 District Curriculum Meeting. Mr. Pauloski commented that he remains reluctant to provide a full day kindergarten program for all students.

Mrs. Feinberg requested more information on the teacher evaluation process. She questioned the opportunity for students and parents to provide feedback. Mrs. Miller responded in agreement to opening up opportunities for providing feedback on courses, content, and instructors. Dr. Beauchemin stated that the administration will provide more information on the teacher evaluation process at the curriculum meetings in the fall.

9. **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Jennifer Brown suggested encouraging parents to attend district curriculum meetings at each school's Open House held in September. Mr. Giordano expressed support for the idea. He also challenged the administration to utilize the district website for communicating with parents and the community. He suggested previewing the district website with parents during Open House.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

11. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 24, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Administration Building, 1140 Salisbury Road, Allentown, PA 18103.