

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 13

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 15, 2011

Committee Members Present : C. Bachofner, L. Andrews, G. Emery, E. Schenk, D. Robishaw
Other Board Members Present : D. Choquette
Staff Members Present : N. Guyer
Others Present : none
Location : Superintendent's Office – McLain Building

I. Call to order:

This meeting was called to order by Neal Guyer, Curriculum Committee Administrative Liaison at 5:40 PM. Sally Carleton, Curriculum Committee Chair was unable to attend this meeting due to illness.

II. Update on 'Parity Study' being undertaken by K-7 school principals:

The committee members received copies of worksheet templates being utilized by principals to gather study data in a unified manner. When completed, the study will profile comparable data, school-to-school, related to content area instructional minutes, perceptions of instructional resource sufficiency, quality, and effectiveness along with status information related to allied arts, special education, and educational technology. These data will be utilized to identify where parity issues remain within K-7 programming across the RSU, and where parity efforts may be leading to unintended consequences in planning for and scheduling core instructional time.

III. Review of the requested professional development initiatives for 2011-2012:

Neal Guyer provided committee members with a handout profiling fifteen professional development requests that have been submitted by administrative team members. Administrative planning sessions continue to focus upon prioritizing requests and coordinating efforts between schools as much as possible. This will continue to be necessary as 2011-2012 budget spending projections become clearer and NCLB professional development grants become finalized. Not all requested projects will be able to be acted upon as funding request exceed available resources.

It was also noted that the RSU has experienced a greater than usual demand for both conferences/workshops, and for the funding of graduate level courses. Currently the RSU has in place a 'temporary hold' on funding conferences and workshops. It is hoped that following a mid-year budget status analysis, this hold will be lifted to the degree possible.

IV. Additional Updates:

The Review Committee tasked with reviewing the challenge to instructional and research material pertaining to three books included in the Rockland District Middle School library held its second meeting on December 8, 2011. Review Committee members will submit written conclusions and recommendation to the Review Committee Chair (Larry Schooley) by December 22nd.

Neal Guyer profiled highlighted curriculum projects on the docket for the remainder of this year. In light of the emerging Interim-Superintendent arrangement being confirmed, committee members were made aware of which projects would continue to receive high priority attention and how support stipends would be utilized to facilitate continuing curriculum work.

Committee members were notified that fall Writing Assessment Results and 2010-2011 NECAP results have been posted on the district's website. The assessment data link is accessed via the Central Office banner of the website. Neal Guyer also shared demonstration templates of how the district plans to share exemplars of student writing via the website – linked to writing assessment report postings. This link will be informational for faculty, parents, and community members and will present developmental examples of how writing skills develop grade-to-grade.

V. Other/Adjourn:
Writing exemplars - assessments

The Curriculum Committee confirmed its next meeting will occur on January 19, 2011. Highlighted topics to include:

- *Presentation of the GT Program LEGOS Competition – Anne Pietroski & Tom Wright*
- *Presentation – Fundamentals of 'Standards-Based' practice.*
- *Initial summary findings from on-going parity study – implications for program planning and budget development.*

This meeting was adjourned by Neal Guyer at 7:00 PM.