

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 13
SCHOOL BOARD
CURRICULUM & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2018

Committee Members Present : L. Andrews, C. Bachofner
Other Board Members Present : T. Peaco
Staff Members Present : J. McDonald, S. Tribou, B. Johnson, A. Pietroski, H. Faesy,
A. Ward, and A. Shortall
Location : McLain Building, Rockland

I. Call to order:

This meeting was called to order by Loren Andrews at 2:30 PM.

II. Presentations:

Anne Pietroski, OHS GT teacher, organized STEM and Liberal Arts Academy presentations for the committee. A Liberal Arts Academy student shared a presentation detailing her experiences through job shadowing, an internship, and challenging coursework that led her through her Liberal Arts endorsement pathway. She discussed how she took a chance to observe some of our local attorneys just to see if she had any interest in that area even though she has felt passionately about the arts. She hopes to curate or even operate an art gallery in her future. The STEM student also highlighted her experience through her job shadowing with Mohs surgery. She explained that she got to watch a few procedures and followed some biopsied specimens to the lab to look for precancerous cells. She also discussed her internship in which she worked with Herring Gut Learning Center. She had much appreciation for what she learned from both of these experiences, but found her passion in education. She discussed how she was given advice from some professionals that it is best to work in a field in science in the private sector then go into public education. She hopes to follow this plan as she continues to pursue her science passion. Both of these young ladies presented to 8th graders to inspire incoming freshmen to join an academic academy.

Another presentation was given by the Freshman Academy at OHS. Hannah Faesy, BARR Model Coordinator for the freshman team, presented along with freshman math teachers, Allison Ward and Amanda Shortall. The Freshman Academy is a model that is intended to support freshmen in their transition into high school. Statistics have shown that students who are not successful their freshmen year are more likely to drop out before completing high school. The BARR Model stands for Building Assets, Reducing Risks, and teachers meet together as a team to discuss each students' risks including attendance, grades, and behaviors. Students showing risk are assigned a teacher who checks in on a regular basis. Additional plans are created for students who continue to show risks, and the assigned teacher is responsible for following through with the plan established by the team. The Freshman Academy relies heavily on data. They carefully track attendance. The current truancy rate of the 9th grade is 20.7%, and while the team would like to see that number decrease, it is below the school rate, which is 29%. They also have kept track of students who pass their freshmen year and go on to sophomore status. In 2018, 67.2% of freshmen received sophomore status after their first year of high school. In 2019, 75% of freshmen received sophomore status after their first year of high school. In 2020, the Freshman Academy was put into place for its first year, and 94.1% of freshmen received sophomore status after their first year of high school. In this current year (which is still a few weeks prior to grades closing), 90.7% of freshmen are projected to receive sophomore status after their first year of high school. Hannah Faesy highlighted that this team is about students supporting students, teachers supporting students, and teachers supporting teachers, and the data from the presentation echoed this sentiment.

III. Other/Adjourn:

*The committee will meet again on **Monday June 25th at 3:30 PM**. Agenda items to include:*

**Technology and Guiding Principles Presentation*

**Plan for K-5 science moving forward*

Chair Andrews adjourned this meeting at 3:45 PM.