REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 13 SCHOOL BOARD CURRICULUM & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES August 24, 2015

Committee Members Present : L. Andrews, D. Robishaw, C. Bachofner

Other Board Members Present : C. Curtis

Staff Members Present : N. Guyer, C. Veit, R. Thompson, J. Curtis,

W. Gifford, B. Johnson, J. McDonald

Others Present :

Location : McLain Building – Rockland

I. Call to order:

This meeting was called to order by Committee Chair L. Andrews at 3:30 PM.

II. Review of Oceanside High School Program of Studies (POS):

Faculty member and science instructor Jenn Curtis profiled a Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) course of study that will be initiated at OHS during the coming academic year. This course of study will allow students to go above and beyond standard graduation expectations within these content areas, and successful students will earn a STEM endorsement for their diploma and high school transcript. This series of content rich and rigorous courses will also involve students in mentoring relationships with OHS faculty members as well as expectations and contacts for community-based internships. This POS pathway will provide learning opportunities and well deserved recognition for students who are motivated to exceed standards. It was also noted that student served on the advisory committee that guided STEM Pathway development. Curriculum Committee members enthusiastically endorsed the STEM Pathway and noted that a referral to the RSU 13 Policy Committee should be made for necessary revisions to the graduation requirements policy (IKF) in order to provide for recognition of special area endorsement upon graduation.

Principal Thompson noted that the Fisherman's Academy held an initial 'kick off' session with seven participating students on this date – August 24th. This involved an experiential day of activities involving lobster field studies and activities sponsored via the Herring Gut Learning Center in Port Clyde. An anonymous donation of \$ 5,000 has been gratefully received in support of this new and exciting program at OHS.

Principals Thompson and Gifford noted that the current iterations of the OHS POS remain works in progress. Much effort for the FY 16 POS has centered upon the use of improved and more standardized language to describe course offerings with care being taken that descriptive language does not communicate unintended biases and is more student and parent friendly. The principals also noted that four additional course have been included in the POS for FY 16; advanced piano, journalism, engineering thru guitar building, and a unified physical education class to support special education life skills students.

III. Update on the transition to PowerSchool student information system:

Bruce Johnson profiled the extensive work accomplished over the summer months in reimaging and preparing technology hardware for the coming school year. It was also noted that several server upgrades were also completed.

A special note of appreciation was extended to the RSU 13 Technology Integrators who designed the series of professional development sessions that will be held on August 25th and 26th in support of PowerSchool implementation. A full agenda for the two days of differentiated workshops can be viewed on the RSU 13 website.

IV. Other/Adjourn:

This meeting was adjourned by Chair Andrews at 5:07 PM.

The Curriculum-Technology Committee will next meet on September 28, 2015 at 3:30 PM.