

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 17
CURRICULUM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 11, 2011, 3:47 p.m. – 4:40 p.m., ***CENTRAL OFFICE***

Minutes to be taken by: Pamela Hensel

Members in attendance: Celeste Formica, Corey Borzain, Eric Larson, Pamela Hensel, Howard Thiery, Amy Jacques-Purdy, Charlie Macunas, Sheila Ward, Tracy Whaples, Mim Wagner, Pat Muzzulin, Maryann Grimaldi, Melissa Steinhilper, Rita Peretto, Eileen Blewett, and Elisa Pitoniak and Janice Harris arrived at 4:01 p.m.

Curriculum Council Agenda 2011-2012

- Curriculum Revision Cycle – Howard began by distributing the current curriculum revision schedule and asking for opinions on the format. Many members noted that it was somewhat confusing and agreed that a new format would be welcome.
- E. Larson recommends splitting the big three, Math, Science and Language Arts into different years, Howard agreed.

Howard asked the committee to prioritize the list from last month's suggested agenda items. The items were prioritized as follows:

1. Communicate to parents and community
2. Standard based report cards – Nov.
3. SRBI – elementary level - Dec.
4. District approach to ELA – Jan.
5. Common Core Presentation – Feb.
6. M. Wagner requested a place on the agenda monthly to discuss the Middle School Honor Roll.

High School Homework Initiative

Charlie reported that he recently attended a 2 day workshop on Homework. He and his department heads are reading Rick Wormelli's book Fair Isn't Always Easy. Charlie and his staff have begun to rethink homework. Currently RSD17 does not have a policy on homework nor a way of providing consistency from teacher to teacher. Charlie indicated that High School teachers will study time vs. quality, develop homework guidelines and establish that the student responsibilities with homework will be the teacher's responsibility with homework. Together high school staff will research and decide – When should homework be given, does staggering work better than every night? When should homework not be given, holiday breaks? How much should homework count and how do we treat late homework?

Professional Development Plan

Howard introduced the 2011-2012 Professional Development plan. Teaching and Learning Specialists Patty, Sheila and Bryan will overlap grades levels.

Spotlight on 17

Howard reported that two fifth grade students and Mim Wagner were his first guests on Spotlight on 17, they discussed transitioning from 4th grade to 5th grade.

Superintendent Round Table

The BOE, Amy Jacques-Purdy reported has finished their strategic goals and will be adopting them at the BOE meeting in November, they will then present them to this committee.

Mim Wagner asked when CIP plans will be brought to the BOE. Superintendent Thiery responded by saying this year the CMT and CAPT reports will be brought to the BOE in October and school CIP in November, he further explained that this process is one month behind where it will be next year. CMT and CAPT will be presented to the BOE in September and CIP in October, he added that each school will present their CIP plans.