

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 17
CURRICULUM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 21, 2008

Minutes to be taken by: Cindy Fetteroll

Members in attendance: Alan Rice, Maryann Grimaldi, Kathleen Mozak-Pezza, Gary Mala, Charlie Macunas, Patty Muzzulin, Deb White, Eileen Blewett, Amy Jacques-Purdy, John O'Leary, Eric Larson, Colleen Fitzpatrick, JoAnn Smith, Eileen Mills, Melissa Steinhilper

ITEM **PRESENTER**

09-10 Status Report on Discussions Regarding GPA / QPA **Maryann Grimaldi**
Kathleen Mozak-Pezza and Maryann reviewed a PowerPoint presentation, which they were prepared to present later that same evening to members of the Board of Education. They detailed some of the advantages and disadvantages of the current 21 point scale as it relates and compares to the 4.0 scale. It is the intention of the High School to convert to a 4.0 full weighted GPA system in the 08-09 school year. There were many questions from council members, but ultimately the council voted unanimously to approve this proposal and send it to the BOE for evaluation.

09-11 AP Language and Composition proposal **Kathleen Mozak-Pezza**
High School English teacher Alan Rice reported on a course and text proposal for eleventh grade AP English Language and Composition. Alan stated that the challenge in the proposal is to incorporate all the demands of this writing course into the time frame given. Alan suggested that the answer was to include mandatory summer course work. The proposed text for this course, "Everything is an Argument" is one that Alan feels is extremely well written and laid out. It is divided into five sections, each with a particular focus. Alan provided council members with a draft of the curriculum, and stated that the department is very enthusiastic about its inclusion into the program. Kathleen added that in a student interest survey, eighteen students indicated that it was a course that they would like to see offered, which was very encouraging. Alan stated that the cost of the text and additional supplies would be approximately \$3,000.
The council voted unanimously to approve this proposal, and send it to the BOE for consideration

09-12 Status Report on Comprehensive School Counseling Model **James Downey et. al.**
No report was made.

09-13 Task Force Reports

Adult Care Task Force (to commence in December 2008) **Gary Mala**
Gary stated that discussion on this task force would commence in December.

Robotics Task Force (to commence in December 2008) **Gary Mala**
Gary reported that the HK Robotics Team (comprised of ten students) competed in the 3rd Annual BEST Robotics competition at CCSU over the weekend, and that the team placed 4th out of 20 teams. The team will now have the opportunity to compete at the national level, which will be held in Alabama in December. The council was very excited about this accomplishment and the program itself, and suggested the importance of making the funds available for the students and its advisor, Ryan Kish to attend this national competition. Gary also suggested that it is very important for the middle school to develop a 'feeder program' to this high school team, and he is hoping that someone will come forward to create a middle school club. There were at least two council members that suggested that they might know of someone who would be interested in volunteering to run this program.

Alternative Education Program Task Force **Gary Mala**
Gary stated that this item will be on the agenda for the council's next meeting, but stated that some people have already gone out to research certain programs. Gary stated that at this point we will conduct 'conceptual conversations' only, to determine what we see as our needs, and what our hopes are. Gary would ultimately like to see a program like this as a potential revenue source.

09-14

Next Meeting: November 18, 2008

Agenda:

- a. Comprehensive School Counseling Model Update
- b. Alternative Education Program Task Force Report
- c.
- d.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.