



TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Mr. Donald L. Snoke
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Education Committee Meeting Agenda April 4, 2016

I. Call to Order – Mrs. Morgan called the meeting to order at 5:00PM

II. NMSI Proposal – Mr. Samosky

Mr. Samosky presented the basic concepts of NMSI and the desire of the THS staff to move forward to promote the emphasis on AP Testing and Staff Development. Mr. Samosky stated he is recommending T ASD purchase the NMSI program. Mr. Samosky stated he did not have a final quote as to the cost of the program but he would provide the amount to the Board prior to seeking approval. Mr. Nick Phillips stated he and the other teachers of AP were supportive of this program.

III. Naviance - Mr. Samosky

Mr. Samosky presented the Naviance career oriented program and stated he believed it would benefit our students and guidance staff in the career counseling process. Many district are utilizing Naviance to help students select options for potential careers. Additionally there are digital resources for parents/guardians. Finally the program allows T ASD to track the students after their graduation. Mr. Samosky will provide a quote prior to seeking board approval.

IV. 339 Plan – Mrs. Garda and Mr. Samosky

Mrs. Garda presented the completed 339 Plan. Mrs. Garda stated that Trinity was fortunate to have remodeled the T ASD guidance department following the national ASCA model previously. The 339 Plan details all guidance services available for students K-12. The 339 Plan

V. Inside –Out Follow-up – Mr. Snoke

Mr. Snoke presented the results of the recently completed Inside-Out Program. Mr. Spence, Mrs. Bebout and Ms. Watson completed training for 97 4th grade students in the area of appropriate touching and inappropriate touching. Additionally, Mr. Snoke presented the staff members determination of need for an additional program concerning pre-puberty and puberty issues as the students are maturing at various rates. Mr. Snoke reported that research will begin to identify a potential program to address these concerns. If a program is selected it will be presented to the Board for approval and these programs will remain opt-in for all parents/guardians.

VI. Math Realignment/Math Acceleration, AR 215.1 – Mr. Snoke

Mr. Snoke presented the additional AR for Math Acceleration and the 5th Grade Testing for TMS math level placement. The criteria for 6th grade students qualifying for the Honors Math Track were discussed. The discussion included a variety of questions about the placement criteria. Mrs. Eates discussed the necessity to carefully place the students based on being identified through the GIEP process, thus affording students the option of qualifying for Honors Math. Mrs. McIlvaine asked about the possibility of a student being overmatched in the Honors Math and the criteria for students to be down phased. Mrs. Morgan expressed concern about the qualifying testing threshold of 75%. Mr. Keruskin stated the GIEP process would help determine the placement. Dr. Lucas stated that we are allowing students and parents/guardians the option of choosing the student's academic path. Mr. Snoke stated that all participants and their families would be alerted that the students are enrolling in an Honors program and the class will not slow down the process to meet the needs for a student who is incorrectly placed. Such an overmatched student would be down phased. 5th Grade parents/guardians may opt their students out of taking the placement test. Additionally students who qualify do not have to choose the Honors program. Finally parents/guardians must sign to allow their student to enter the Honors program. The overarching philosophy is to allow students/parents/guardians flexibility and options in course and level selections. Mr. Phillips stated he was one of the students who would have welcomed the flexibility and options as a student at TASD. Mr. Snoke reiterated that any Algebra I or II components taught at TMS will align directly with the curriculum and assessments utilized at THS. The systemic approach to curriculum, instruction and assessment will improve the math program at TASD.

VII. (K – 6) Elementary Math Materials Adoption Progress – Mrs. Ostrosky and Mrs. Ledger

Mr. Snoke discussed the process and proposal for a systemic K-6 Math Program. Currently there are some inconsistencies with the materials and resources utilized at the elementary level. Mrs. Ostrosky and Mrs. Ledger discussed the options the elementary math team explored. The main publishing companies were accessed and they presented their proposals to the math team. Currently the frontrunner is Houghton Mifflin's Math Expressions. The program is aligned with Common Core, structured in the UbD format and has considerable manipulatives and differentiation is incorporated in the instructional design. The elementary principals have been charged to discuss the math options with all elementary math personnel and provide feedback to Mr. Snoke by April 15, 2016. Mrs. Eates asked about the copyright date and Mrs. Ostrosky explained the series has a 2013 copyright. Mr. Snoke stated that central office believes that if we want the desired systemic instructional design changes to occur we must supply the appropriate resources to our staff to make certain the changes actually occur. A final decision and recommendation will be presented seeking Board approval in the future.

VIII. ESSA Discussion – Dr. Lucas

Dr. Lucas discussed the most recent ESSA issuance. The basic premise is to increase local control and decision-making concerning curriculum and common core. The basic premise is that standardized testing of students will continue.

IX. Preliminary Elementary Numbers – Mr. Minnick

Mr. Minnick presented the current projected numbers for the elementary schools for 2016-2017. The overall presentation is the district may eliminate an elementary teaching position. However these numbers are preliminary and the administration

will continue to monitor the situation. There were two specific areas which present a concern due to the higher enrollment numbers and the number of teaching positions in those areas.

X. Public Comment - None

XI. New Business

Mr. Snoke presented the issue of Study Island's licensing term for the TASD. Study Island's contract expired on March 31, 2016. All of the principals were tasked to provide feedback on the use and cost effectiveness of the Study Island Program. The two areas which building level administration expressed need was Reading Eggs and Reading Eggespression in the primary elementary grade levels. The total cost of the contract for the entire Study Island program is around \$36,000.00. The Reading Eggs and Reading Eggespressions programs may be purchased for approximately \$6,640.00 for all four elementary buildings. The administration is respectfully recommending we purchased Reading Eggs and Reading Eggespressions for the 2016-2017 school year. There was a question from Mr. Minnick about Education City. If purchased all 4 elementary buildings should be utilizing the program. Mr. Snoke stated he would explore the program usage and cost. Any recommendation changes will be presented to the education committee and the Board.

XII. Old Business - None

XIII. Adjournment – Mrs. Morgan 6:02PM