

TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 6, 2016

Board Room – Trinity Hall

5:00 PM

I. Call to Order – Mrs. Morgan 5:00PM

II. Zulama and Technology - Mr. Samosky

Mr. Samosky presented the efforts to develop a consistent and progressive technology curriculum. The TMS and the THS staff worked together to align the course to the benefit of the students in the district. With the addition of Zulama at the middle school more students will be exposed to game design and coding which will allow the students to select higher level computer classes at THS. Mr. Migyanko, Mr. White and Mr. Marino attended and discussed the rationale for moving forward with Zulama. Mr. Mittleider will be travelling this summer with the Microsoft and Harvard connections to the West Coast. Mr. Mittleider will be writing curriculum for middle school students and presenting the products to Microsoft and Harvard. Girls Who Code was discussed as a mechanism to influence more female students into the game design and computer coding arena. Mrs. Morgan asked about the logistics for implementation. The concept is to make these programs available to all students at TASD.

III. Fab Lab, Technology, Ag. Mechanics, Horticulture – Mr. Samosky and Mr. Snoke

Mr. Snoke discussed the progress with the THS Fab Lab and the submission and approval of the Agricultural Mechanics and Horticulture programs of study. The logistics of implementing the Fab Lab for TASD students, students from other districts and adults from the community were discussed. The use of the Chromebooks for THS students was also discussed. Mr. Samosky explained the progress of the Library Makerspace. Mr. Samosky also addressed the concepts of technology becoming more of an instructional tool for our students. Mr. Snoke addressed the TMS grant award and the implementation of a TMS Fab Lab. Dr. Lucas stated he was pleased with the direction the TASD is heading in regard to technology and he was exceptionally please the staff and administration are choosing to implement technology and attempting to fund these endeavors through grants and alternative funding sources.

IV. 2016-2017 Staff Development Topics – Mr. Snoke
“Writing Across the Curriculum”
“UbD with Learning Targets”
Skyward – Student Database and Grading Systems

Mr. Snoke discussed the staff development initiatives the TASD will be continuing during the 2016-2017 school year. Writing Across the Curriculum, UbD educational framework with Learning Targets, and the new student database system Skyward will be the focus for the year. TASD will continue to utilize the Train the Trainer Model.

V. Need for Elementary Maturation Program – Mr. Snoke
(Step between Inside-Out and Teen Outreach)

Mr. Snoke discussed the need for a program to fill the void between the Inside Out and Teen Outreach. Our students are facing many puberty and growth issues and the additional support would assist in the students making appropriate and healthy choices. The administration respectfully request to develop our own program to focus on the specific needs of the students in the TASD. Mrs. Morgan asked about implementation. All staff will be participating and the program will be ongoing. This program will be opt-in for parents and guardian permission.

VI. Additional Program Protecting You Protecting Me – Augment D.A.R.E. – Mr. Snoke

Mr. Snoke discussed the recommendation to explore the Protecting You Protecting Me program to help students who may be in environmental or familial situation where they are dealing with substance use and abuse issues. The program is provided by the Washington County Drug and Alcohol Commission. Mr. Snoke will present the particulars of the program at the next Education Committee Meeting on September 12, 2016. This program will be opt-in for parents and guardian permission.

VII. (K – 6) Math Materials to Teachers – Mr. Snoke
Train the Trainers Model

Mrs. McGarrity presented her experience and student data from piloting the Reflex Math program to improve fluency facts with our elementary students. Mr. Uram discussed his experience with piloting the free services from the Khan Academy and CK-12. Mrs. Morgan asked if there were fees for the Reflex Math program and the answer is yes. Mrs. Morgan stated she has successfully utilized the Ten Marks Math Program which is free as well. Mr. Snoke stated the administration will explore open source and free sources prior to requesting any paid programs.

VIII. Comprehensive Plan Update – Mr. Snoke

Mr. Snoke explained that the initial meeting of the comprehensive plan group went very well. The group discussed the academic and affective needs of the regular education students at the lower end of academic achievement. Teacher and Parent/Guardian surveys are ongoing and the deadline is June 10, 2016.

The data will be used to complete a draft of the comprehensive plan which is due in November of 2016. Additional meetings will be scheduled in the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year.

IX. Discussion

Mrs. Coyle discussed the number of special needs students and the overall number of students in the 4th Grade at Trinity South and requested adding a teacher and an additional class. The administration continues to monitor the numbers in the elementary classrooms and will address needs when they arise.

X. Public Comment

NONE

XI. New Business

NONE

XII. Adjournment

Mrs. Morgan at 5:45 PM.

Attendance: Nick Phillips, Connie Schreibeis, Brandi Coyle, Penny Caleffe, Dr. Michael Lucas, Don Snoke, Jennifer Morgan, Craig Uram, Stacey McCollough, Craig Uram, Frank Golsky, Frances Eates, Tom Samosky, Eric Lauver, Gordon Lowry, Andy Migyanko, Mike Marino and Matt White