

Hempfield School District
Education and Programs Committee Meeting Notes

Committee Purpose

The Committee provides the School Board with a high-level overview of the educational and extra-curricular programming of the district; acts as a sounding board for various potential changes in programming, while providing a conduit of communication and recommendations back to the full School Board.

Committee Leadership

*Linda Johnston, School Board Committee Chair
Jim Maurer, School Board Committee Vice-Chair*

Date: February 6, 2020

Time: 4:30-6:00 PM

Location: Board Conference Room

Present – Tab Musser, Maria Hoover, Mike Donato, Dylan Bard, Mike Graham, Brendan Cregan, Jim Dague, Rosemarie Zorilla, Steve Polonus, Charles Merris, Linda Johnston, Cathi Fuhrman

Discussion

I. Research Course Proposal

- a. Cathi Fuhrman discussed a new set of electives entitled Research Pathways I and Research Pathways II. She gave a presentation that included the rationale, big ideas, structure, grading, and teachers of record. This will be an online elective with face to face meetings with teachers, however, some of the face to face meetings. Research Pathways I will be structured with more group work in terms of learning the process where Research Pathways II will be focused more of individual research. This elective does not have prerequisites and is open to all tenth through twelfth grade students. This course will be voted on at the February 11th Board Meeting.

II. Targeted Intervention Plan (TSI) for English Learners

- a. Rosemarie Zorilla presented our Targeted Intervention Plan for our ELs that will be presented to the Board for vote in March. She discussed the indicators and measures based on the designation from the state. She also discussed goals based on each indicator.

III. Student Activity Fees

- a. Preliminary discussion took place about the status of our student activity fees. More discussion will take place in the near future. A recommendation for suspension of these fees will be made to the full Board to consider.

IV. Curriculum Audit Cycle

- a. Maria shared the revisions of the Curriculum Audit Cycle. All curriculum moves this cycle. Changes include: Math (held at year 6), English Language Arts (Split into K-6 and 7-12), English Learner Development work has been extended due to a change in standards at the state level.

V. Online Educational Opportunities

- a. Brendan Cregan discussed our online opportunities for students. The High School administration would like to open the LEC as an option for students to complete online coursework under the supervision of a teacher. This includes are students who take online courses and those that are part of the Haven program.

VI. E-sports (Video Game Competition)

- a. Jim Dague and Mike Graham presented the possibility of having an e-sports team added to your high school. There are many career opportunities and scholarships associated with e-sports. This team could potentially tap into a group of students that we haven't been able to reach with your current teams, clubs, and organization. Jim attended a conference sponsored by the Emerald Foundation where he learned all about the e-sport leagues, competitions, and structure. More information will come as this evolves.

b.

VII. Student Athlete Honors/Letters of Intent

- a. There was a discussion about whether or not we should participate in the National Day of Signing for athletes competing in Division I or II sports. This date differs for some sports. Steve Polonus explained that Hempfield recognizes all athletes at the day of signing in February and also include those athletes competing in Division III and Club sports at the next level. He does reach out to parents if there is a special signing at the Division I level and welcomes parents to reach out to him if there is a special circumstance.

Next Education ad Programs Committee Meeting: April 23, 2020, Board Conference Room, 4:30-6:00PM

