



Education and Programs Committee Minutes November 18, 2021

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

*Maria Hoover, Assistant Superintendent
Linda Johnston, School Board Committee Chair
Jim Maurer, School Board Committee Chair*

Start Time: 5:00 p.m.

Location: Performing Arts Center, Hempfield High School

Attendees:

Board Members: Linda Johnston, Dylan Bard, Charles Merris, Bill Otto, Grant Keener, Mike Donato

Staff: Jason Hoffman, Jaclyn Smith, Kathy Deisley, Maria Hoover, Tab Musser, Mike Bromirski, Mike Graham, Stephen Sharp, Ben Mitchell, Elizabeth Burns, Lauren Lewis, Steve Polonus, Jennifer Wettig, Carol Dommel

Mrs. Johnston called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Time for Public Comment (5-minute limit per Board Policy 903): No public comment

Agenda Items:

- **High School Course Proposals:** Kathy Deisley
 - No new staff or equipment is required for new course proposals for 22-23
 - AP Macroeconomics will be added in the social studies department
 - Business Spanish course will be renamed
 - French Film course will be offered
 - Current Latin 3 courses will become Latin 4
 - Replacement Latin 3 course will be added to better prepare students for advanced Latin grammar
 - Fundamentals of Art will no longer be a prerequisite for other art courses
 - Will offer Animation and Art for All as new electives in the Art Department
 - The following Literary Analysis courses will be new and offered at varying levels to 11th and 12th grade students: Definition of Success; Modern American Voices of Resilience; Science Fiction and Dystopia; Mystery, Suspense and Horror
 - English Language Development class restructuring for English language learners



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- Realigning ELD courses to align with English 9 and English 10
- Presented proposed electives for English language learners
- Presented estimated budget for proposed courses

- **Data presentation:** Kathy Deisley/Jason Hoffman
 - Presented the 2021 PSSA and Keystone data to the board
 - The PA Department of Education has advised districts not to compare 2021 PSSA/Keystone data to previous years. Students didn't take these assessments in 2020 and considerably more students took the assessment in 2019 prior to the closure due to Covid 19
 - Reviewed the advanced placement data from 2017 to 2021
 - Compared Hempfield's PSAT data to the state average
 - Action plans are being established for curriculum and data analysis

- **Math Pilot Update:** Jason Hoffman/Jaclyn Smith
 - Discussed the three pilot programs: Envision Math, Into Math and Reveal Math
 - More training was given as well as monthly check-ins
 - Will offer opportunities to visit other pilot classrooms
 - Information will be gathered from teachers and students to evaluate the programs
 - A timeline of events was presented to the board for the remainder of the school year

- **ESSER II/ESSER III Update:** Maria Hoover
 - Presented the total allotment for Hempfield and the federal requirements
 - Explained the specifics of the ARP ESSER and the 7% set-aside
 - Discussed the comprehensive plan for ESSER III
 - Will be gathering feedback on spending based on requirements
 - Surveys will be sent to central office staff, district staff and the community

- **Social/Emotional Learning:** Stephen Sharp
 - Mr. Sharp had a prior commitment; therefore, Mr. Merris suggested to "table" this topic until the next meeting. No vote was taken.

- **Additional Item for Discussion:** Steve Polonus/Jennifer Wettig
 - Board members had questions about the athletic training software (ATS) that is used for physical exam paperwork
 - Dr. Polonus and Ms. Wettig were able to answer their questions and shared parents are given ample opportunities to attend ATS trainings
 - The Board requested the administration to explore concerns and report back

Meeting Adjourned: 7:17 p.m.