

## **Minutes of the Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment Meeting**

North Boone Community Unit School District #200

Held at North Boone District Office

6248 North Boone School Road

Poplar Grove, IL 61065

Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 3:45 p.m.

### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 3:45 p.m. by Mr. Brian Haselhorst. The following Committee members were present: Tami Doetch, Dr. Greenlee, Jake Hubert, Michele Lessard, Molly Lilja, Melissa Nachampassack, Jamie Pearce, Carl Rudy, Liz Saveley, Tracy Schabacker, and Mike Winebrenner. Absent: Maria Duarte, Kelly Hanaman, Mary Piskie, Heather Walsh and Azusena Yaro. Also Present: Cheryl Gieseke and Jerry Rudolph.

### **AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

*(None)*

### **CEC AUDIT**

Ms. Terri Carman from CEC joined the meeting via phone to give a remote presentation of their audit findings. She stated their audit team was comprised of four team members with 35 years of experience. The CEC team received feedback from 47 of the 117 teachers surveyed. In summary, the audit team observed our staff is committed to helping students, and recommended offering increased teacher collaboration time. She noted some students shared they can determine which teachers grade tough vs. easy, which is not unusual. The audit team felt Mrs. Lilja and Ms. Gieseke were doing a great job, but going forward, they recommended a full-time, District-level Curriculum Director with experience in long range planning. The audit findings also suggested increasing and standardizing parent communication, even perhaps providing online sample problems and solutions to help parents navigate the new math. Mr. Winebrenner had noted each North Boone teacher does have their own website, but did not feel these sites were utilized very regularly by students or parents. He shared that students are very transparent about sharing teacher grading philosophies, and sensed there was tension between consistency and autonomy. He felt the trick is getting consistency when there are different ways to grade and evaluate.

### **HIGH SCHOOL COURSE PROPOSALS**

Mr. Hubert recommended eliminating Freshman Seminar from the Curriculum Guide, as he is not seeing success in the program. Removing this class would provide freshmen with more options for electives. Mr. Winebrenner felt Freshman Seminar was not helping, and part of the problem was not having a standard curriculum. He said we are using available teachers instead of assigning the best suited teacher to the class. Mr. Hubert will also modify the AP course test requirement language.

Dr. Greenlee said the revised Curriculum Guide would be taken to the Board in December.

## **STUDENT ASSESSMENT UPDATE**

Dr. Greenlee presented standardized testing results from PARCC, MAPs, and the SAT, showing the results from the end of the 2017-18 school year. He noted these results were shared with the Board at the October 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. He felt there were some positive trends in different subject areas and grade levels, but we also have areas that need continued work. Dr. Greenlee congratulated Capron Elementary on their Exemplary status for ELA and math growth. He noted Poplar Grove Elementary was very close to earning this status as well. All other five schools earned Commendable status. Mrs. Saveley believed growth is good instead of just focusing on proficiency. She felt focusing on growth targets and goals would be good to look at as a District.

## **LONG TERM TECHNOLOGY PLAN**

Dr. Greenlee said this past summer the Board approved the addition of devices. Per their request, a long term plan was constructed and presented. Dr. Greenlee then invited input from the Committee. The presentation began with technology beliefs, which included enhancing student achievement and promoting engagement, supporting instructional goals and teaching strategies, supporting administrative business, data and reporting functions, enhancing all district communication and preparing students to be successful post high school through technical fluency.

The plan also incorporated how technology communicates with the state Student Information System, PowerSchool, SchoolMessenger, MealsPlus, E-Funds, Embrace and Versatrans. Links to each software vendor were supplied for Committee and Board members to access additional information. Ms. Geyman explained Decision Systems, our financial software was a standalone program due to the sensitive nature of the information. She also described Frontline Education, which contains the absence and employee application programs as standalone. She said E-Funds would be the only vendor that would be considered for a software change. The presentation also listed the multitude of ways we communicate externally. Mr. Rudolph noted about 80% of information travels via Facebook.

The presentation outlined the benefits of technology with examples like accelerates, amplifies and expands the impact of effective teaching practices, increases access to learning opportunities for all students, bridges inequities among students, provides all learners with online access and better learning opportunities, and increases the level of engagement, empowerment and participation.

A link listing of all current hardware and software in the District was also provided.

There were 98 teachers that responded to a technology survey. Results included PE and art, where they may not utilize additional devices. Approximately 500 computers at \$200 per device are needed to meet the four year goals. The average past technology expenditure has been about \$75,000 per year. Dr. Greenlee was unsure if the state will continue to fund in the same manner, but felt we could afford to put a \$100,000 placeholder in the budget. Ms. Geyman noted about \$14,000 from Title I grant money was spent on technology last year. Dr. Greenlee suggested approving expenses by May to ensure computers are in house prior to the next school year.

Mr. Rudolph noted software licenses are priced by quantity, and said to plan on roughly \$25 per device for these licenses.

Mr. Rudy said he would like to see a rubric or metric in place to make decisions. Dr. Greenlee stated they do factor in input from staff, and noted all resource adoptions are coming with a technology component. Mr. Rudy observed the technology survey represented a lot of stakeholders, but noticed student feedback was missing. Mr. Rudolph will plan to send a survey to students, and possibly parents. Mrs. Saveley felt current students have always been exposed to technology, and believed it is our responsibility to provide those students opportunities to learn how to navigate technology responsibly.

Dr. Greenlee will plan to roll out this plan as informational at the December Board meeting. Mr. Rudy said this starts addressing the concerns the Board has requested of the District.

### **OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

*(none)*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*(none)*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Submitted by:

Brian Haselhorst /S/  
Brian Haselhorst, Chair