

## Riverview School District

### Education Committee Meeting Notes

Monday, January 7, 2013

7:00 – 8:40 PM

Central Office Conference Room

Present: Mr. Hackworth, Mrs. Ashbaugh, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Tompa, Mrs. Vitti, Dr. McClure, Dr. Loeffler, Dr. DiNinno, Mr. Moser, Ms. Nix, Mr. Zolkowski, Mr. Shoaf, Ms. Wiegand, Mr. Dunkle, Mrs. Madden, Mrs. Yingling, Mrs. Black

Absent: Mrs. Dolan, Mr. Kadylak

#### AGENDA:

- **Changing the Instructional Paradigm in Our Libraries**  
RSD librarians Mrs. Lynn Madden and Mrs. Mary Ann Yingling provided an overview of their recent visit to the Library Media Center at Elizabeth Forward School District. They shared some of the latest thinking in moving school libraries from "merely" book repositories to instructional centers in which students engage with all forms of media. Dr. DiNinno commended Mrs. Madden and Mrs. Yingling for the excellent job which they do in creating a positive literacy environment for our students.
- **Grades 6 - 12 Math Update**  
This topic will be discussed at the February 11<sup>th</sup> Study Session. The grades 6 - 12 math teachers, building administrators and Director of Student Achievement will present a summary of the most recent student data.
- **Secondary Course of Studies and Potential Course Changes**  
Mr. Moser and Ms. Nix spoke briefly about some of the proposed changes for the 2013 - 2014 school year. Among those are the addition of reading courses at grades 7 and 8, a revised math sequence, an increase in Biology from 5 days to 7, a change in the course titles for Conceptual Bio and Chem, revisions to the rotation schedule, the addition of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning cross-curricular classes and the opportunities for foreign languages at grades 9 - 12. All of these will be discussed with the Board in greater detail during the next few months.
- **Special Education Audit**  
Special Education Coordinator Ms. Susan Wiegand presented a very comprehensive powerpoint summarizing the many programs the district currently provides. She also reported a very positive exit interview following the recent special education audit. Dr. DiNinno commended Ms. Wiegand and the special education teachers for the excellent job they do.
- **Value Added Plan/RCEP Mid-Year Review\***  
Mr. Shoaf, Mr. Zolkowski, Ms. Nix and Mr. Moser discussed their building level customization data, including # of students in each building, #/% of students with IEPs, #/% of Gifted students, # of students with an RCEP, and total #/% of students with IEP/GIEP/RCEPs. They will continue this discussion on at the Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup>

Study Session when they will present building level proficiency monitoring data for each building. The Board received the template for this data.

- **Curriculum Review Cycle Update (Literacy and Music)**

Mrs. Black discussed the literacy work that is currently occurring in the district, including the organization of an elementary literacy committee to look at possible revision of the core reading program as well as a series of elementary grade level literacy meetings during which teachers devised lists of ELA skills students should have mastered before entering a grade, after leaving a grade and the PA Common Core Standards aligned with each. Mrs. Black reviewed the teacher observation forms that she is currently using to observe *Language!* Reading classes at Verner and Tenth Street. She also presented planned courses of study for our band, orchestra and vocal music courses. This work was completed by Mr. Libell, Mr. Hughes and Mr. Hart in December and will be discussed during our Arts Education Collaborative self-assessment with Dr. Sarah Sambuca during the second semester. Both literacy and music curriculum review reports will be presented to the Board at the March Education Committee meeting.

- **Arts Education Collaborative Self-Assessment**

Mrs. Black provided the Board with a calendar of upcoming events for the district's self-assessment. These include teacher, administrator and counselor interviews, classroom visits, teacher professional development, document review, and parent/student focus groups.

- **Informational Items**

World Languages Convention and Expo/Rachelle Poth Report

Grade 6 Transition Journal Samples from Verner and Tenth Street

PA Opening Doors Initiative/PA First Lady Susan Corbett (dropout prevention)

*Rethinking Teacher Evaluation* (ASCD Education Update/December, 2012)

\*Discussion to be continued at the Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup> Study Session

Next Education Committee Meeting: Monday, March 5, 2013