

Riverview School District

Education Committee Meeting Notes

Monday, April 2, 2012 7:00 – 9:00 PM Central Office Conference Room

Present: Mrs. Dolan, Mr. Hackworth, Mrs. Ashbaugh, Dr. McClure, Ms. ViVitti (7:19), Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Tompa, Mr. Moser, Ms. Nix, Mr. Zolkowski, Mr. Shoaf, Ms. Wiegand, Mr. Lapiana (parent), Mrs. Black

Absent: Dr. Erdeljac, Mr. Kadylak, Dr. Loeffler

AGENDA:

- **2011 - 2012 Curriculum Review Cycle Reports: Social Studies and Foreign Languages**
Mr. Moser provided an overview of the curriculum review cycle for both departments. Foreign Languages focused on common assessments, the new language series, and the continuation of exploratory classes. Mandarin Chinese will be offered via a Beattie distance course. Social Studies focused on the new sequence, a new grade 8 text and collaboration with the English department around Common Core Standards. Model UN opportunities continue to flourish.
- **Building Safety Updates: Tenth Street, Verner, Jr./Sr. High School**
Each building principal provided an update on safety issues. Mr. Zolkowski commended his building safety coordinator, Mrs. Lori Brickner, for the excellent work she has done. Professional development time has been devoted to safety. Two building "lock downs" have occurred. Mr. Shoaf spoke about monthly drills at Verner, parent reunification modifications, collaboration with the Verner mayor and police chief and the table top exercises in which teachers have participated. Mr. Shannon Kahne is the Verner building safety coordinator. Mr. Moser described professional development activities and the addition of more structure to fire drills. Mrs. Patsy Kvortek is the secondary building coordinator. Mr. Moser addressed a question from Mrs. Dolan regarding bomb scare procedures.
- **Summer Programs for Tenth Street, Verner, Jr./Sr. High School**
Mrs. Black reported that summer positions have been posted for all three buildings. Efforts were made to respond to parent requests for additional math summer opportunities. The Jr/Sr High is offering math and English credit recovery as well as math enrichment. Secondary math teachers will meet for three $\frac{1}{2}$ day reflection/planning sessions. The elementary buildings are offering both math and reading for grades K - 6. Once the job postings close (4/19), positions will be filled. If there are not enough RSD teachers who apply, the positions will be posted in the Post-Gazette. Mrs. Ashbaugh inquired about transportation to the Jr/Sr High for Verona students. Dr. Erdeljac has informed us that transportation will be provided for these students.
- **RSD Primary Literacy Summer Institute**
Mrs. Black announced that Mrs. Lori Ruggiero, Verner Title I reading specialist, will facilitate a 2 day primary literacy summer institute for any interested Verner or Tenth Street teacher of grades K - 3. Focus will be on reading history, pedagogy, theory, research and proven instructional practice. Follow-

up sessions are also planned for the 2012-2013 school year. As of 4/16, six primary teachers have signed up to participate.

- **AP (Advanced Placement) and Dual Enrollment Considerations**

Jr/Sr High assistant principal Ms. Nix described several options for dual enrollment for the 2012-2013 school year. These include CCAC/Boyce Campus, PSU/New Kensington, U of Pgh and Clarion University. Ms. Nix discussed the strengths and challenges of each program. Many surrounding districts provide this educational opportunity for their students. After some discussion, the Board indicated that they would like Mr. Moser and Ms. Nix to continue to investigate dual enrollment and report back with specifics for next year. Ms. Vitti mentioned that the dual enrollment classes she attended at Chatham were invaluable to her academic career.

- **Grades 6 - 12 Math Programs/Instructional Practice for 2012-2013**

Mrs. Black and the building principals reported that they are engaging in conversations with teachers, data analysis and reflection concerning current math programs and plans for next year.

- **Math 4Sight Data: Tenth Street, Verner, Jr./Sr. High School**

Mr. Zolkowski, Mr. Shoaf, Mr. Moser and Ms. Nix presented 4Sight data for their buildings. Included were projections for PSSA proficiency levels for the current school year. The Board requested that building principals continue to forward 4Sight parent reports following each benchmark administration, using the report similar to that provided by PDE for PSSAs.

Mr. Lapiana, Jr/Sr High parent, thanked the administrative team for offering additional math summer opportunities this year. He also inquired about accessing "pure" student assessment math scores which do not include extra credit, make up credit, etc. Mrs. Black explained that while our current Pinnacle Gradebook allows for this kind of reporting, currently not all math teachers enter grades utilizing this format. Mr. Moser and Ms. Nix will work with secondary teachers to provide this assessment data for next year. Parents may also contact individual teachers for more student specific assessment data.

- **Informational Items:**

- 📄 Secondary Literacy Review for 2012-2013: Addition of *In the Time of the Butterflies* for grade 9

- 📄 *Academic Standards for Mathematics: Grades PreK-High School* (PDE Draft)

- 📄 Updated RSD Math Goals Chart

- 📄 Chapter 4 Updates (PDE Draft)

- 📄 Jr./Sr. High School Improvement Plan Update (We are no longer required to submit a School Level Plan, per PDE)

- 📄 Mrs. Black added the following informational items: PSBA Board Policy Revisions; U of Pgh MAT interns for 2012-2013; Secondary Robotics Program; Race to the Top (RTTT) grant; Secondary department math chair Mrs. C. Cecil selected to attend PDE's Keystone Examination Revision meeting in May.

Thanks to everyone for their participation in Education Committee Meetings this year!