



East Greenbush Central School District

ADMINISTRATION CENTER

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Lynne Pampel Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

East Greenbush Central School District
Committee for Curriculum Study (CCS)
Wednesday, December 9, 2015

1. Attendance:

Meagan Asenbauer, English Department Chairperson and Teacher
Jill Barker, Assistant Principal, Goff
Frank DiDonato, Math Department Chairperson and Teacher
Melissa Dupont, Reading 6-12 Department Chairperson and Teacher
Steve Ford, CTE Department Chairperson and Teacher
Timothy Galvin, Teacher
Melissa Gleason, Teacher
Wayne Grignon, Principal
Katrina Gruet, Teacher
Patricia Hannmann, Foreign Language Department Chairperson and Teacher
Elizabeth Hart, Teacher
Sarah Hoffman, Science Department Chairperson and Teacher
Tammy Kirwin, Teacher
Brian Marsh, CAP Department Chairperson and Teacher
Wendy McAlonie, Social Studies Department Chairperson and Teacher
Andrea Neiman, High School, Art Department Chairperson and Teacher
Dr. Lynne Pampel, Committee Chairperson
Denise Romer, Teacher
Kathy Rutherford, Special Education Department Chairperson and Teacher
Kimberly Sabella, Guidance Department Chairperson
Donna Shepardson, Teacher
Helen Squillace, Director of Pupil Personnel Services

2. Approval of Minutes (11/12/15)

Steve Ford commented that there was an error in the minutes from the November meeting. The minutes stated “ SED approval of a 4+1 sequence in CTE requires teachers to be CTE certified and that Columbia does not have the required number of CTE certified teachers teaching the courses needed for the 4+1”. He requested that we correct the minutes to read “We have one math teacher teaching a course required for the 4+1

career path with CTE certification and this person is not CTE certified.” Melissa Dupont made a motion to amend the minutes from the November 12th meeting and Brian Marsh seconded. Kimberly Sabella made a motion to approve the amended November minutes; Patti Hannaman seconded. The minutes were approved.

3. Curriculum Treasurer’s Report

None at this time.

4. New Business

a. Subcommittee Reports

Alternative Education – Brian Marsh explained that he meets with CAP teachers and staff every Friday to review programs. They have discussed goals, accomplishments, and how they will move forward for program review.

Library – Laura Campagna, librarian from Red Mill, will be joining the CCS and representing the librarians. Dr. Pampel will be meeting with the librarians monthly to assist with the Five Year Review.

b. Curriculum Writing Presentations:

Tim Galvin and Marjorie Isbester presented the 6th Grade ELA and reading skills mapping completed this summer. Critical skills were reviewed.

Jessica Hladik presented each of the 3 math curriculum writing projects she completed Algebra IIR, Algebra IIH and Basic Algebra. She also outlined the professional development activities the math faculty has participated in.

c. New Course Proposals

Dr. Pampel will be assembling the subcommittee to approve the next Project Lead the Way Course, Foundations of Engineering, so the teacher is able to attend the required training scheduled for January of this year in Rochester. Any district that participates in Project Lead the Way is required to offer three courses, but has three years and may add one annually. The Foundations Course will be the second required course. PLTW allows Districts to select from a variety of courses for the third offering. A discussion ensued regarding offering Engineering prerequisite in the middle school. Design and Drawing for production is offered in 8th grade in some schools and is considered to be an introduction to the Engineering sequence. Design and Drawing may be used as the required Fine Arts credit. Mr. Halliday expressed a concern that Design and Drawing may be taken in place of art or music credit. Andrea Neiman also expressed concerns about the impact on future enrollment. She stated that other districts run art classes with under 25 students and questioned why the District would support classes associated with STEM with lower enrollment. Further discussion outlined the expectation that the new academies would gain enrollment over time. The possibility of expanding STEM to include Arts and

Music (STEAM) was resolved with the suggestion that a proposal be developed for future consideration.

The Introduction to a Nanoscale Science Course being considered was postponed so the District could give consideration to what is of greater value to our students; courses that yield college in the high school credits or courses that provide a more global overview of a particular topic that might attract a wider audience and lead to the pursuit of postsecondary specialization or employment. The Introduction to Nanoscale Science course offered locally through Distance Learning yields College for Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE) credits, and has chemistry and physics as its content base. CNSE also offers three other introductory nanoscale classes that focus on economics, environmental impact and social impact. It was suggested that the committee consider the development of a course that combined several of the nanoscale course topics listed above. A study would have to be conducted to see what percentage of students enroll in electives because they yield College in the High School Credits, or if interest dictates their choices.

d. New Textbooks

Crime In Literature – During the 11/12/2015 meeting the Committee approved the non-fiction text *Columbine*. This text was to be presented to the Board of Education and approved during the December meeting. The content was discussed during the November meeting. The Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction pulled the BOE resolution after reading the text after the November meeting. There were concerns with the context, timing and content of the text. Copies were purchased for volunteers to read and discuss during the March meeting.

6. Professional Development

The Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction reported out on the Next Generation Science Standards training that Thomas Brownell and Sarah Hoffman attended. Standards are in draft format and have a two month commentary period. Significant professional development and curriculum writing will be required for K-8. As of now there is no implementation date or schedule for the new assessments to begin.

7. For the Good of the Order

The CCS subcommittee approved the use special projects funds to pay for ELA/math mapping curriculum development after school since we cannot continue the work during the day due to substitute coverage issues.

8. Adjournment -Meeting was adjourned.