

Minutes

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, May 2, 2016

6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Pat May, Lisa Metheney and Chuck Walters

Administration Present: Mr. Malaspino and Mr. Berkley

Staff Present: Mrs. Cook

1. Reviewed grades in which the Keystone exams are currently administered and decided to continue with this as it aligns to the overall school curriculum. Algebra 1 tested in 9th grade, Literature tested in 10th grade and Biology is tested in 11th grade.
2. Discussed Every Student Succeeds Act and the impact on Keystone testing and the Department of Education Keystone Graduation requirement for the class of 2019 (current 9th grade students). Mr. Malaspino reminded the committee that the board made a decision last year to drop the keystone graduation requirement based on the fact the PDE was not able to fulfill their requirement of administering the project based assessment. PDE subsequently postponed their Keystone graduation requirement until the class of 2019 and have announced that districts may use the Project Based Assessment but PDE would not grade it. So, final determination of students meeting the Keystone graduation requirement is a district level decision. This information was confirmed through conversation between Mr. Malaspino and I.U.08. Mr. Malaspino cautioned that PDE will be submitting their educational plans to the federal government in the fall of 2016 so more changes may be coming. The committee discussed and proposed the following items specific to the district:
 - a. Students will be given one opportunity to take the Keystone exams. If they pass the exam, they are considered proficient and have met the graduation requirement.
 - b. Parents/Students may choose to take the exam a second time. If so, they will be assigned to a not for credit remediation class for one semester. Mr. Berkley stated that the remediation would take place during academic period. PDE guidelines state that remediation for keystone exams is no longer mandated and is now optional.
 - c. If the student does not pass the first exam and the parent/student does not want to take the exam again, the student will then take the district level project based assessment. Students will be assigned to a content teacher during academic period until the project is successfully completed. At that time, the student will be considered as having met the Keystone graduation requirement. The district will use the PDE developed Project Based Assessment for this.
 - d. Keystone proficiency will continue to be reflected on student transcripts.

3. The student handbook will require a revision now that no child left behind has been replaced by ESSA. The following wording will be placed in the handbook to reflect the district position on the Keystone as a graduation requirement:

As per guidelines from the Pa. Department of Education and the Federal Every Student Succeeds Act, beginning with the class of 2019, students must demonstrate proficiency on the Keystone Exams as a graduation requirement. This may be accomplished in the following manner.

- a. *Students who pass the Keystone Exam with a proficient or higher score will have demonstrated proficiency.*
- b. *If a student does not pass an exam, the students/parents may choose to enter a remediation class and then retake the keystone exam during the next available administration. The remediation class will be one semester and not for credit.*
- c. *Students/parents may choose to take the district administered project based assessment. This will be administered during the academic period. Once the student has demonstrated proficiency on the assessment, they will be considered as having met the graduation requirement.*

Additional information will be provided to parents and students when test results are received by the guidance office. Please contact the guidance office for additional information.

4. Discussed I.U.0 8 Open Campus cyber course offerings and how they may be used in order to offer students opportunities in addition to our current course offerings. Members were provided with course listings and costs. One option discussed in detail was the potential to offer online Advanced Placement courses. Enrollment criteria were proposed and changes to the Distract AP policy would need to be made and approved by the board. Proposed guidelines are as follows:
 - *Juniors and Seniors may take A.P. courses in addition to the required TVASD courses. As the courses are online, students will be able to access the course during the school day. It is important to note that the online instructor may well have additional time requirements which the student must meet.*
 - *In order to be eligible for the course, students must:*
 - (a) *Be on the TVASD Honor Roll for the semester prior to enrolling in the course.*
 - (b) *Have an 85% or higher in their related course. (if wishing to take an AP history course, their history grade at TVASD must be 85% or higher)*
 - (c) *Receive a recommendation from their class room teacher in the related subject.*
 - (d) *Make a deposit of \$200 dollars which will be returned providing the student maintains a 70% or higher average and completes the course.*
 - *Upon completion of the course, the course results will be noted on the student's transcript and awarded weighted credit as per TVASD policy.*
5. The possible addition of an online Agriculture class is being looked into by Mr. Malaspino. The courses would allow interested students to work toward and obtain their Future Farmers of America Degrees. Enrollment criteria will be established prior to offering the courses to students. Details aren't expected to be worked out until June.

6. ArtsAnywhere, a digital Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math curriculum was discussed with the possibilities of adding it to Mr. Philips STEM classes. Currently we are waiting for a price structure for the program.
7. Mr. Malaspino updated the committee on the SCTC delivery system and the possibilities for Senior SCTC student to Co-op while still being able to complete their required TVASD course work. The proposal includes customized online courses which are tailored to the students career choice and co-op work assignment. It is believed by the administration that our seniors next year may be able to take advantage of this assuming that they are eligible for a co-op through SCTC. The County Superintendents are continuing to work on this idea. Mr. Berkley informed the group that he is able to use Odysseyware courses for the customized learning. The committee then discussed whether or not this same approach may be offered to seniors as an “internship” type program. Mr. Malaspino suggested starting with the SCTC students as a pilot but the idea has real potential for all seniors.
8. Mrs. Cook discussed the status of the Senior Presentations which will be replacing the culminating project. Mrs. Cook presented for consideration the idea of mandatory community service, perhaps ten hours. The committee discussed and decided against it, in large part due to the fact that Mr. Berkley is working to establish school give back projects in which classes as a whole would be involved in serving the community in some way. The give back projects are also a part of the district comprehensive plan.
9. Mr. Berkley presented for review the 2016/2017 Master Schedules.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:15 p.m.