



Wisconsin Rapids Board of Education
Educational Services Committee

510 Peach Street · Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 · (715) 422-6005

MINUTES

Sandra Hett, Chairman
Katie Bielski-Medina
John Krings
Anne Lee
Mary Rayome
Greg Swank
Michelle Bean, President

September 2, 2008

LOCATION: Conference Room A/B

TIME: Immediately following the Business Services Committee meeting, but not before 6:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Michelle Bean, Katie Bielski-Medina, Sandra Hett, John Krings, Anne Lee, Mary Rayome and Greg Swank

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Robert Crist, Jason Krug and Sharon Toellner

I. Call to Order

Sandy Hett called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Curriculum Development

A. Build Your Own Curriculum (BYOC) Summer Academy

Sharon Toellner, Director of Instruction, provided a review of the process in choosing a curriculum mapping tool. A summer academy was held for teachers and administrators on August 4 through 7 and facilitated by Robert Nickel, principal of Sturgeon Bay High School.

Jeanne Olson, music teacher at East Junior High School and CII Music Chairperson, was present to share the work completed by the music teachers who attended the summer academy. Ms. Olson explained that Build Your Own Curriculum is user friendly, and will help fill in gaps in the District curriculum. The music teachers created a universal template to ensure the same language would be used in the music department. The group divided the music curriculum into four themes/units: Performance, Connections, Theory and Reflective Musicianship. Each unit was then broken down into Topics. As an example, Ms. Olson explained that the topics under Performance were:

- Social Behavior in a Music Setting
- Technique and Sound Production
- Individual Performance

- Group Performance
- Expression
- Instrument Care and Maintenance

Once the topics were created, Ms. Olson explained the next step in the process was writing learning targets. As an example, the two learning targets under Social Behavior in a Music Setting were:

- demonstrate appropriate social behavior in a live performance (D)
- demonstrate appropriate social behavior in a music classroom (D)

Ms. Toellner explained that all curricular areas will categorize learning targets into five types: (K) Knowledge, (R) Reasoning, (S) Skill, (P) Product, and (D) Disposition.

The October and November Professional Development Days will be used to build an awareness among departments and grade levels regarding work that was accomplished this pas summer. The content areas that have begun work with the software are elementary math, elementary social studies, K-12 music and K-12 library media.

Ms. Toellner explained that a summary/reflection was requested of the attendees. She shared the comments and reflections with Committee members. She also shared that collaboration among teachers was an important part of the process.

B. Mead Elementary Charter School Update

ES-1 Motion by Mary Rayome, second by Michelle Bean, to approve the Mead Elementary Charter School contract revisions necessary to comply with Federal charter school law.

Margie Dorshorst, principal of Mead Elementary Charter School, was present to explain the work that was completed. Using the four pillars model (Differentiation, Service-Learning, Goal-Directed, Asset-Building) teachers worked during the summer in grade level teams to determine learning targets and determine the pacing of curriculum.

Ms. Dorshorst explained to Committee members that a full day of training was provided by the Search Institute on asset building, which connects to Responsive Classroom. Ms. Dorshorst indicated that some teachers attended a Responsive Classroom training and Professional Learning Communities training. With the remaining grant money, teachers are developing literacy rich classrooms by purchasing books for students.

With money in the technology budget, Ms. Dorshorst explained that there are seven technology classrooms. The process of adding SmartBoards and Elmo projectors in each of the classrooms is still being completed.

The grant was written for \$150,000; however, the Mead Elementary Charter School received \$125,000 due to the number of grant applications received. Ms. Dorshorst indicated that out of 50 applications, only 5 initial grant awards were given. An additional \$50,000 grant will be available for districts to apply for in October.

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) suggested more revisions to the charter school contract to assure it meets federal guidelines. Ms. Dorshorst reviewed the changes with Committee members.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. 2008-09 Data Retreats and School Improvement Process

Sharon Toellner, Director of Instruction, explained that in August a District data retreat was held with elementary and secondary building teams and administrators. As in the past, associates of CESA 5 facilitated the retreat to assist in widening the perspective of the building team members when reviewing the performance of state, CESA and District assessments.

Scott Kellogg, principal of Howe Elementary School and District Assessment Coordinator, reviewed Howe's Professional Development Plan, Building Data Team goals and the steps to accomplish goals. Mr. Kellogg explained the correlation between Howe's School Improvement Goal for math and professional development goals. Mr. Kellogg also explained a new School Improvement Plan format that building data teams are using to list strategies/tasks and corresponding timelines/monitoring checkpoints. Building data teams will be responsible for submitting an updated plan at the end of each trimester to Sharon Toellner.

IV. Updates and Reports

V. Consent Agenda Items

ES-1 Mead Elementary Charter School Update

VI. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

**Agenda items are determined by Committee Chair after consultation with appropriate administration depending upon other agenda items, presentation information, and agenda availability.*

Future agenda items include, but are not limited to:

- Technology Literacy Assessment (October)
- ACT Report (October)
- 2008-09 Professional Development Plans (October)
- Renaissance Learning Product Subscription Renewals (October)
- Parent Representative Appointment to the CII (October)
- Art Curriculum and Acquisition Report (October or November)
- Vesper Community Academy Update (October or November)

- New Course Proposals (November)
- Youth Options (November)
- Advanced Placement Report

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.