



EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2024

Virtual Meeting - 8:30 A.M.

Committee Members: Beth Fiore, Chair

Paulo Lopes, Randall Peach, Carolyn Podgorski

Administrative Staff: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent of Schools

Staci Beegle, Director of Pupil Services

Jason Bohm, SBA/Board Secretary

Dr. Stacey Brown, Humanities Supervisor

Sherry Krial, PD/Tech Supervisor

Sarah Pauch, Math, Science, Tech Supervisor

Anthony Tumolo, SEL Supervisor

Jim Belske, Technology Coordinator

Minutes

1. Curriculum Review (see summaries below)
2. Language Instruction Education Plan (LIEP) - Mr. Tumolo presented the District's LIEP which is a review of the District's multilingual language program. Previous plan's two goals included- 1) implement and design SEI (Sheltered English Instruction) training. To date, 50% of staff have been trained on SEI. The District has also increased ESL staffing. The ESL period has been revised to mirror a special education resource room. 2) Culturally responsive practices. This includes better communication with families by translating newsletters and correspondence and also increasing the use of pocket translators. New goals for 2024-2027 is to #1 increase participation of Parent Advisory Committee by adding additional meetings. Goal #2 continuation of culturally responsive practices to perhaps provide educational support for parents and caregivers (for example a guide could be created to help non-English speaking family members access School and Community resources. Goal #3 identify Preschool multi-lingual learners and provide professional development on SEI to preschool staff.
3. Professional Development Plan - Mrs. Krial presented the District's Professional Development Plan, which is state mandated to be updated annually.
4. Mentoring Plan - Mrs. Krial also presented the District's Mentoring Plan, which is state mandated to be updated annually. Our District differs from others in that we have a great buddy system for new hires and we go above and beyond State requirements to onboard new staff members. The District has 25 new hires (5 in preschool alone) this year. New Teacher Orientation is scheduled for Aug 19th.
5. Field Trips - Field Trip list will be on the August board agenda. It's an all encompassing list, and doesn't necessarily mean that every trip will take place. Some may also be added later in the year.

6. HSA Fundraisers - The fundraisers list from HSA is an all encompassing list and does not necessarily mean that every fundraiser will take place. Some fundraisers are added later in the year.

Agenda items: Curriculum revisions, field trips, HSA fundraisers, inquiry consultant (since the District is in the final year of the strategic plan, this consultant will close out the plan and provide a keynote address in upcoming professional development sessions.)

Next Meeting: October 9th at 8:30am

Summaries of Curriculum Revisions

K-5 Math Changes

- Updated New Jersey Student Learning Standards (including Data Literacy)
- Updated Interdisciplinary Connections for NJSLA ELA
- Updated scope and sequence to reflect the 2024 i-Ready Classroom textbooks
 - Kindergarten
 - First Grade
 - Second Grade
 - Third Grade
 - Third Grade Honors
 - Fourth Grade
 - Fourth Grade Honors
 - Fifth Grade
 - Fifth Grade Honors

6 - 8 Math Changes

- Updated New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Mathematics
- Updated Interdisciplinary Connections for NJSLA ELA
 - Sixth Grade
 - Sixth Grade Advanced
 - Sixth Grade Honors
 - Seventh Grade
 - Seventh Grade Advanced
 - Eighth Grade

Algebra I and II

- Updated New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Mathematics including the state-recommended course content and emphases
- Updated Interdisciplinary Connections for NJSLA ELA
 - Algebra I (7th Honors and 8th Advanced)
 - Algebra II (8th Honors)

Science K-5 and 6-8

- Updated Interdisciplinary Connections to reflect updated NJSLs for Mathematics and ELA
 - Science K-5
 - Science 6-8

Health K-2, 3-5, and 6-8

- Updated Interdisciplinary Connections to reflect updated NJSLS for Mathematics and ELA
- 6-8 Scope and Sequence update for scheduling
 - Health K-2
 - Health 3-5
 - Health 6-8
- Updated Scope and Sequence: reflects adjustments needed for the new schedule.
 - There has been no change to content, only the grade level at which the standard is taught.
 - Teachers are aware of potential gaps and have allotted time to teach prerequisites if needed.
 - There has been no change to any of the sexual health lessons or content.

Physical Education K-2, 3-5, and 6-8

- Updated Interdisciplinary Connections to reflect updated NJSLS for Mathematics and ELA
 - K-2 Physical Education
 - 3-5 Physical Education
 - 6-8 Physical Education

New Encore Classes at RMS

- Yoga & Mindfulness
- Exploring National Parks
- Experimental Design and Inquiry
- Kinesiology
- Achieving Fitness: An Adventure Approach
- PALS PE
- Mock Trial
- Psychology
- No Passport Needed: Climate, Culture, and Cuisines of the World

Gifted and Talented

- Updated NJDOE GT requirements. Revised Chronology of Required Documentation. Appeals Process for Pull-out Program added.
- Exiting procedures revised.
- 5th grade unit 2 revised, mostly replacing the term fake-news with misinformation.
 - GT Curriculum

World Language

- Updated interdisciplinary connections to reflect new standards in ELA and Math
 - Spanish Grade K-5
 - Spanish Grade 6
 - Spanish Grade 7
 - Spanish Grade 8

- French Grade 6
- French Grade 7
- French Grade 8
- Chinese Grade 6
- Chinese Grade 7
- Chinese Grade 8

ELA K-5

- Complete rewrite to align to new NJSLS for ELA

In K-2 the new Reading program is reflected. Writing and Phonics units stayed the same.

- Kindergarten ELA
- Grade 1 English Language Arts
- Grade 2 English Language Arts
- Grade 3 English Language Arts
- Grade 4 English Language Arts
- Grade 5 English Language Arts

ELA 7&8

- Complete rewrite to align to new NJSLS for ELA and reduction in literacy time at RMS
 - Grade 7 ELA
 - Grade 8 ELA

Note: Grade 6 ELA Curriculum is still being drafted, this will be included on the September Board Agenda.

The Arts

- Updates to Interdisciplinary Connections for ELA and Math
 - Music Curriculum K-2
 - Music Curriculum 3-5
 - Theatre
 - Dance
 - Visual Arts K-2
 - Visual Arts 3-5
 - Visual Arts 6-8
- Changes to the pacing guide for General Music and Chorus
- Updates to Interdisciplinary Connections for ELA and Math
 - Music 6-8

Social Studies

- Interdisciplinary connections for Math and ELA updated
 - SS Kindergarten
 - SS 1st Grade
 - SS 2nd Grade

- SS 3rd Grade
- SS 4th Grade
- SS 5th Grade
- SS 6th Grade
- SS 8th Grade
- 8th Grade Civics

- Addition of Judaism review and comparison of religious beliefs to other world religions
- Interdisciplinary connections for Math and ELA updated
 - SS 7th Grade