

EXETER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE OF THE SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2019

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ♦ PD ROOM ♦ 6:00 P.M.

Committee Members: Dr. Robert Phillips, Dr. Patrick Winters, Dr. Dave Hemberger, Dr. Sharon McLendon, Mrs. Allison Wilson, Mrs. Melissa Devlin, Mr. Hunter Ahrens, and Ms. Kristi Coble

Guests: Mr. John Fidler, Mrs. Janet Graden, and Mr. Joseph Hepp

Information Items:

- Meetings will be from 6:00-7:00 pm prior to the monthly Board Workshop Meeting.
- Future meeting dates for Semester 1 of the 2019-2020 school year are as follows: 11/12 and 12/3.
- Agenda will be posted on the website for review the Friday before the meeting.

Agenda/Discussion Items

Dr. Winters welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave an overview of what we would be discussed at the meeting.

- Exeter Virtual Academy - Quarter 1 Updates
 - The startup of our virtual academy is going well. Our teachers have been amazing!
 - On September 30, the virtual academy teachers were trained on Edgenuity. The trainer was from Edgenuity and answered valuable questions. One item of discussion was consistent grading practices across subjects. The Edgenuity trainer also suggested that the virtual team meet with the virtual students and their parents.
 - The parent meeting took place on October 8, 2019 at 2:00pm today. Four students came to the meeting with their parents. Two additional families were scheduled to come in later in the week. Each family was able to meet with all subject area teachers and review the curriculum for the upcoming year. Dan Wilchek put together binders of important information and reviewed data with students. A parent, who had a student at an offsite virtual academy, said she is happy with our program. She recommended a "live" class, which is something we will be looking into. We are now starting to have interest in the Exeter Virtual Academy at the Junior High level. We will be looking into this for next year. Stephanie Isselmann, Gifted Teacher, is also interested in rolling out online classes to our gifted students.
 - The standard fee for Edgenuity training is \$2500.00. We will use Title II funds to pay for training. There are online components for training as well as a face-to-face piece. As we move forward with the program, there will be fewer expenses for the training. If we have any questions, calls are answered as part of the contract with Edgenuity.
Question - How many students have IEPs?

- Thank You - Dan Wilchek for his support with the rollout of the program and to all the teachers who have been so supportive.
- 2019-2020 Literacy & ESL Programming Report - Melissa Devlin
 - Literacy - Melissa reported that she has spent a great deal of time, in her new position, reviewing the current plans for literacy and ESL. She indicated that everything we do is based on data...looking for areas of success and areas for improvement. A student's attendance plays a big part in their success. Melissa wants to create a cohesive plan that will include K-12 by building on the K-8 literacy vision. The teachers need to see the whole balanced literacy picture for the whole district.
 - The needs assessment developed by Pennsylvania is updated.
 - Develop Response to Instruction and Intervention (RtII) program into Multi-Tiered System of Support.
 - Title I - Currently, we identify Title I students and use the Title funds for those students. Melissa is proposing that we could become a school-wide program to support all students in the building instead of just a select few. A narrative needs to be created to identify how we could use the funds and submit it to the state. This would allow us to support all classrooms. The intervention specialists can go into any classroom and help all students, not just specific students. Federal Programs Monitoring will take place in 2020.
 - Primary/Elementary Literacy - We are seeing a 3rd Grade drop off in phonological awareness. We need to increase skills in Grades K-2. Students are not getting the necessary support from home prior to starting school. Heggerty is used in Kindergarten and Grade 1. The BCIU will offer training, and our K-3 teachers will be trained.
 - Reading & Writing Conferencing - Teachers should be talking to students about their work instead of handing back a marked up test or writing assignment. Instruction should be specific to the child.
 - Secondary Literacy - Develop a professional development plan to strengthen co-teaching partnerships between regular and special education. The IU has training in co-teaching.
 - ESL - Sixty-two students are enrolled. We are seeing growth in this area. The elementary students are currently attending Jacksonwald. The curriculum needs to be updated to include resources for English Learners with specific attention to multi-lingual materials and culturally responsive instructional practices.