



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

Curriculum Advisory Committee

November 14, 2006

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present: Elaine Armani, Barbara Chapin, Susan Cook, Constance Dennis, Linda Houston, Patricia Howell, Susan Jacobse, Lois Redmond, Alicia Reyes, Charles Spire, John Traube

Committee Members Absent: Angel Coleman, Joseph Harris, Susan Kohler, Sheila Terry

Lee County School Personnel Present: Dr. Constance Jones

Recording Secretary: Sherry Pearsall

Reading/Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chairperson, Connie Dennis. Mrs. Jeananne Folaros, Principal of Cypress Lake Middle School, was welcomed and introduced as a guest speaker this evening.

Minutes from the October 9th meeting were dispensed and reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Patsy Howell and seconded by John Traube. The vote was carried unanimously.

Board Members' Report

Mr. Chilmonik suggested this committee may want to look into the integration of technology into the curriculum, possibly another subcommittee. Mr. Traube asked if this was referring just to computers or merging with arts & technology. Mr. Chilmonik was referring to using the 20,000 computers that currently are in our schools. Connie Dennis asked Mr. Chilmonik for a twenty minute overview presentation at the next meeting for the committee to make a further determination. Mr. Chilmonik will outline his objectives (graduation rates, dropout rates and integrating technology into the curriculum) at the next meeting.

The School Board Reorganization will take place on November 21st. Mr. Chilmonik will be sworn in this Thursday, November 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Old Business

Subcommittee Reports –

Literacy-

Susan Cook met recently with Cristina Hernandez, ESOL Coordinator. She will be sharing the information she received with her other committee members.

Meeting the Needs of Advanced Learners-

Connie Dennis

Comprehensive Career/Technical Education-

Barbara Chapin met with other subcommittee members on November 6th. All members of this subcommittee are new this year and are looking for direction on how to proceed. They developed questions they have and will proceed accordingly.

New Business

Meeting Middle School Legislative Requirements-

Mrs. Jeananne Folaros, Principal of Cypress Lake Middle School, presented information on Promotion at the Middle School Transition to a Credit Based System.

The expectation is that middle school students will pass courses more than passing their grade. Many issues remain to be resolved. It will be important to keep students on track to make them successful at the end of their three years in middle school. A task force of Middle School Principals has been created to oversee and move the project forward. A tight timeline must be implemented with this years sixth graders. Mrs. Folaros defined the standards for promotion as:

- A student is classified as a 7th grader by earning 3 or more credits in English, Social Studies, Math and Science.
- A student is classified as an 8th grader by earning 6 or more credits in English, Social Studies, Math and Science.
- A student is classified and a 9th grader by earning the required 12 credits and completing a Career Education Plan.

Mrs. Folaros went on to explain what credit retrieval will look like in middle school. There will be summer school for 6th graders who are credit deficient at one middle school in each zone for 15 days, 4.5 hours per day. Students will be able to retrieve one credit by taking one class in English, Math, Science and Social Studies. Summer School will use a combination of a standards based system and seat time for awarding credit. All students will take a pretest that will also be the end of course exam. Students who demonstrate mastery by scoring an 80% or higher on the pretest will be awarded credit and will be dismissed from summer school. Students who use a combination of seat time and standard mastery will be required to attend a minimum of 13 days and earn a passing grade. An end of course passing grade can be achieved by attaining an 80% or higher on the end of course exam or earning a course average of 60% or higher including the end of course exam grade that is valued at 20% of the course average. Repeating classes during the coming year in regular class, NovaNet, or extended day will be available for retrieving additional credits. Students that have room in their schedules (electives) must retake failed courses. Some students may take four years to move through middle school (not a bad thing, as this gives the student more time to master the standards).The committee is presently working on communication tools to present this information to parents and the community.

Special School Board Meeting Updates-

Connie Dennis reported that recently all school advisory liaisons attended a special School Board meeting. According to Dr. Browder, topics will be assigned quarterly to each Board Advisory Committee for discussion and feedback. To improve communication among Board Advisory Committees, all monthly meeting agendas will now be shared with all of the other Board Advisory Committee Chairpersons.

Scheduling Monthly Meetings & Future Agenda Requests-

The committee opted to vote only on a meeting night for December. John Traube motioned to accept the suggestion of Tuesday, December 12th; Dr. Lois Redmond seconded the motion. The vote carried

unanimously. It was suggested that the first item of business on next month's agenda be to calendar meeting nights for the remainder of this year. Future requests for agenda items include an overview of the ESE Program. Dr. Brunick will be contacted to determine his availability for the December meeting.

Public Comment

None.

A motion to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. was made by John Traube and seconded by Alicia Reyes.

The next meeting of the Curriculum Advisory Committee is scheduled for:

Tuesday, December 12, 2006, at 6:00 p.m. in the Human Resources Conference Room on the first floor of the Dr. James A. Adams Public Education Center, 2055 Central Ave., Ft. Myers, FL

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Pearsall