

The School District of Lee County

Curriculum Advisory Committee

March 21, 2016

6:00 p.m. – Training Room D

Meeting Minutes

Mission Statement:

To advise the School Board by recommending approaches to obtaining improved student achievement for all students through a coherent, rigorous academic course of study that provides the tools necessary to succeed in today's society. Emphasis will be placed on the dynamic development of a K-12 curriculum within a safe environment leading to both career and technical majors, the methods of instruction used to implement it, and the assessments of its effectiveness, together with a complementary professional development program to support it.

Committee Members Present: David Adorno, Elizabeth Blundo, Joseph Camputaro, Kathleen Cherasia, Connie Dennis, April Ketron, Melissa Knablin-Liebal, Dr. Kelly Lavis, Patti Lochner, Robert Mahone, Evelyn Murphy, John Steakley, Stephen Whitener, Judy Wilkerson, Sandra Worth

Committee Members Absent: Patricia Givens (excused)

School Board Liaison Present: Pam LaRiviere

Staff Members Present: Brandy Macchia and Melissa Robery

Recording Secretary: Jamie Fowler

Presenters: Lorie Carlsen, Rita Effing

Guests: none

Welcome and Introduction of Members

The meeting was called to order by Patti Lochner at 6:00 welcoming all committee members, new members and guests.

Review of Mission Statement and Purpose of Committee

Patti asked everyone to review the mission statement and reminded everyone of the purpose of the committee.

Reading and Approval of March 21, 2016 agenda

There was a motion to approve the agenda as it was presented by Kathleen Cherasia, Elizabeth Blundo seconded and all voted to approve.

Reading and Approval of February 8, 2016 minutes

There was a motion to approve the minutes as presented by Kathleen Cherasia, seconded by Kelly Lavis and all voted to approve.

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Board Member Report

Mrs. LaRiviere sat in on a conference call with Dr. Adkins and Elementary Principals. They discussed adjustments that need to be made with assessments, instruction, and allowing teachers more freedom to be where the students' needs are developmentally.

Mrs. LaRiviere mentioned that our School District has more public record requests than any other district in the State of Florida. Our District will most likely need to hire another staff member in order to complete public questions/requests.

Positive things happening in the District are promoted with many press releases, the District has an App that can be downloaded on any smart phone, and there is a District email that goes out from Communications called *District Wins* which is sent out weekly. Jamie will be forwarding these emails to the committee members.

Intervention and Enrichment follow-up

Mr. Mahone made the suggestion that there be a program created that takes student data, calculates it and projects what the student needs are and which interventions are most effective as well as the time it will take to close the gaps so resources can be dedicated to schools accordingly.

Currently most schools are using *CASTLE*.

All teachers have access to student data. Teachers at different subject areas/levels and schools use their data in various ways to drive instruction to best meet the needs of their students.

Schools have allocated funding from various sources to help meet student needs. Depending on the needs, funding can be used to get the extra resources in the form of adults to work with children.

All schools at every level have the following:

PLCs Professional Learning Communities where a group of teachers meet, share data, look at resources, and discuss and plan different ways to meet the students' needs.

All elementary schools have an intervention time and some examples include *WIN* (What I need). This is an intervention time in which teachers use various structures such as rotations, small groups, etc depending on their individual needs.

Textbook Adoption Committee Recommendations

Mrs. Lochner introduced Lorie Carlsen Coordinator of Fine Arts and World Languages and Rita Effing, Director of Adult and Career Education as the presenters.

This year's textbook adoption was for Elementary Art, Elementary Music, and *CTE* Career and Technology Education.

Before the process began, publishers were presented minimum requirements determined by the District that narrowed the selection.

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The textbook Adoption timeline:

- A Publisher showcase took place at the District office. Staff and community members were invited to attend to review materials.
- Principals submitted the names of recommended teachers for the textbook adoption committees
- The selected teachers and community members participating attended a 3 hour training that reviewed how to review textbooks and what we were looking for as a District.
- Publishers presented materials to the committees.
- Committees deliberated and made a decision using a rubric and activities to evaluate the resources.

CTE Career and Technology Education is a 5 year adoption. The committee had 4 publishers to choose from.

The Career and Technology Education course is primarily for 9th grade and is an elective course.

Prior to the process, CTE teachers were sent a link to all of the resources to review and try in their classroom with students and a rubric to evaluate the materials.

Digital Information Technology was chosen for the following reasons:

- Provides digital access
- Met the 51% online access so students can meet the online graduation requirements.
- Met the standards of Microsoft Office certification
- Met the requirements of needing to upgrade to the next Microsoft office.
- Has *Mind Tap* which is an intuitive learning tool. Teachers are able to interactively see how an activity is going and are able to grade electronically.
- Has *SAM* which gives students access to 1,000's of questions preparing students for the Microsoft test certification.
- Provides trainings and Webinar for teachers.
- Uses all web based access

Cape Funding, is provided by the State. This funding is used by the schools to support academies and industry certifications.

Elementary Music had 3 publishers to choose from.

Pearson *Interactive Music* was chosen for the following reasons:

- Provides all digital resources
- Had the best content

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- Includes standards driven curriculum
- Aligned with the standards
- Provides every child has a log in account.
- Includes many resources for different types of music.
- Includes printable teacher resources.
- Provides access to electronic instruments.

Elementary Art had 1 publisher to choose from. The committee reviewed the materials to determine if the materials were better than the ones currently in use.

Davis Publications *Explorations in Art* was chosen for the following reasons:

- Meets teachers and students needs
- Provides lesson plans
- Includes a rich gallery of approved art work, so there are no concerns regarding copyright.
- Includes lessons for ESE students.
- Includes printable teacher resources.

Mrs. Murphy commended the system that is used for reviewing materials.

Textbook information can still be reviewed until August 10th by using the following link:

<http://www.leeschools.net/instructional-materials>

The selected textbooks are being presented to the Board at the March 22nd Briefing meeting.

There will be a Public Hearing on the resources selected on April 19 and the adoption agenda item is included on the May 3 School Board Meeting.

Public Comment

None.

Good of the Order

The following motion was made by Judy Wilkerson:

The Curriculum Advisory Committee commends the Standards Based Intervention and Enrichment work showcased by representatives from Manatee Elementary, Orange River Elementary, and Mariner Middle School. As a citizen group we were extraordinarily impressed with the accomplishments of these schools in promoting student success through a strong and competitive use of assessments and resulting data.

Motion to approve was made by Kathleen Cherasia, 2nd by John Steakley all voted to approve.

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Discussion of Honor Choir

- Opportunity to participate at all school levels
- After much practice, teachers select 4-5 of the most outstanding students to represent each school.
- The selected students practice with a guest conductor and there is a performance in the evening that is open to the public. Parents and Community are invited to attend.

There is also All County Band, Choirs, Orchestra, and Jazz for secondary level schools.

Autism Community Day is an event taking place on Saturday, April 30 from 11:00am.-3:00pm at the Gulf Coast Town Center Market Plaza, all are welcome to attend.

Cape Elementary is currently taking donations for a teacher named Jennifer Pietronigro. She has recently suffered from a brain aneurism and any donations are greatly appreciated.

Motion to end the meeting at 7:35 made by Kathleen Cherasia seconded by April Ketron and all voted to adjourn.