



Minutes

Education Committee May 4, 2017

Administration Center

Mr. O'Sullivan called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Committee members in attendance included: Patrick O'Sullivan, Kate Murphy-Peterson, Dr. Kim Dryier, Dr. James Gay, Dr. Stacey Gonzales, Deborah Baker, Robert Nolting, Eric Olsen, Michelle Etchason, Kathy Zwartz, Kevin Purcell, Zoe Kopanis, and Jill Fiscelli. Also in attendance were Board President Rick Nogal, and Board Members Susan Dalton, Melissa Gracias, and Denis Ryan.

Review of April minutes - No comments or corrections were offered.

Mr. O'Sullivan shared that 4 board members, Mrs. Murphy-Peterson; Mrs. Dalton; Mr. Serratore; and Mrs. Gracias, ran unopposed in school board elections held in April and were re-elected. Mr. O'Sullivan stated that the new board was seated at the school board meeting held on April 27th. The board structure will remain the same. He stated that restructuring of school board committees will begin.

Mr. O'Sullivan amended the agenda to include a review by Dr. Gonzales of *Atlas Rubicon*, a curriculum management system, used by staff to house District 230's curriculum.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Atlas Rubicon - Dr. Gonzales provided a demonstration of *Atlas Rubicon*, the curriculum management system, which allows teachers and administrators to map the district's curriculum and courses.

Spring 2017 Institute Day - Dr. Dryier provided a detailed description of the D230 Spring Institute Day activities provided for teachers, ESPs, and administrators. She shared that Mr. Nogal, as well as other board members, participated in the activities. D230 Foundation grants were awarded, retirees celebrated, and newly tenured teachers acknowledged. The activities throughout the day centered around the theme 'Mindset'. Positive feedback was provided by board members, teachers, administrators, and ESP staff.

Summer professional development opportunities - Dr. Dryier shared that as part of the District's S4 goal, to continue to offer professional opportunities for staff, D230 is offering online summer professional development. She stated that professional courses will be presented by D230 administrators. Also shared was an online catalogue and registration for staff. Dr. Dryier shared that PD hours are offered.

Parent/Teacher Conference Data - Dr. Dryier shared a handout that includes data that indicates the number of unique students that had parents attend P/T conferences. She noted that this information was shared at the April meeting with the request for added information. Percentages by building were added to the data provided. Discussion followed regarding possible reasons for lower attendance. Reasons reviewed included information availability on skyward, communication via email, and communication regarding Ds and Fs within the first month of school.

CURRICULUM UPDATE

Curriculum & Instruction Update - Dr. Gonzales shared a presentation concerning Digital Learning, specifically *Blended Learning*. She described blending learning as a formal education program in which students learn:

- at least in part through online learning, with some element of student control over time, place, path and/or pace;
- at least in part in a supervised brick-and-mortar location away from home;
- and the modalities along each students learning path within a course or subject are connected to provide an integrated learning experience.

Professional development will be provided for staff as part of the District's summer professional offerings. Blended Learning courses in Math, Social Studies and English will be offered as part of the Summer 2017 curriculum.

It was commented that Blended Learning fits in with the needs of the business community.

Instructional materials for review - Dr. Gonzales shared that committees of teachers from all three high schools have met to evaluate and recommend instructional materials for use in the 2017-2018 school year. An evaluation rubric was used. The rubric and a summary of strengths of recommended materials were shared at April Curriculum Advisory and will be shared at the May School Board meeting. The instructional materials will be available for a 30-day review period in the office of instruction and will be presented to the Board for adoption in June.

POLICY UPDATES

Dr. Dryier shared a policy and administrative procedure for review.

Policy:

- 6:70 Instruction - Teaching About Religion

Administrative Procedure:

- 6:70AP Instruction - Teaching About Religion

No comments or corrections were offered. The policy will be presented to the Board for a second reading and approval.

OTHER

Committee restructuring process and timeline - Dr. Gay reminded community committee members that the term for committee members is 2 years. He stated that current terms run through the end of June. Applications for anyone interested will be available online. Members may want to re-apply or apply for membership in a different committee. He thanked the committee for their service.

Next meeting: *June 1st, 2017*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.