



New Hope-Solebury School District
Curriculum Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2016—6PM
UES LGI

Attendance

- **School Board** – Tracy Keyes (Chair), Mark Cowell
- **Administration** – Charles Malone, Dr. Steve Yanni, Ken Silver, Dr. Mike McKenna
- **Committee Members** –Kristine Quinby, Lauren McDonough, Wenmei Ge, Kathy Feehan, Amy Hoffman, Stephanie Marrone
- **Presenters** – Dr. McKenna, Dr. Yanni and Mr. Malone
- **Public** – Mel Band

The meeting was called to order by Tracy Keyes and Mr. Malone at 6:00PM.

Approved minutes from the September 29, 2016 meeting.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Mr. Malone gave an overview of the agenda for the night and asked for the committee to review the minutes from 9/29/16. The minutes were approved with a minor edit to correct a name spelling.
- Dr. McKenna gave an overview of the happenings at the UES for 2016-17 SY.
 - Curriculum enhancement
 - Literacy Practices – reading and writing with purpose. Text Dependent Analysis (TDA)
 - Differentiated Instruction and Supplementary instruction for remediation and enrichment
 - 21st Century skills – technology implementation
 - Collaboration and teaming
 - Data Driven Instruction
 - Professional Learning Communities among teachers and staff
- Dr. Yanni and Mr. Malone gave overview of 2015-16 testing results
 - PSSA analysis – Growth noted in all grade levels and significant proficiency levels above state averages.
 - PVAAS (Pennsylvania Value Added Assessment System) gives individual teachers and school buildings three year averages for state

assessments. There were growth areas noted as well as areas needed for improvement. Dr. Yanni highlighted some of the reasoning that scores were low in some areas. Lack of exposure to PA Common Core standards for any significant length of time has caused scores to be low across the state.

- Discussion ensued around data, curriculum coverage and teaching practices.
- Mr. Malone gave an update on Social Studies Curriculum Review
 - Presentation on PA standards and PA Common Core standards in regards to focus for scope and sequence
 - Work identifying gaps and overlaps in curriculum and supporting the district's Literacy Initiative involving Social Studies
 - Embedded professional development as part of the review process. Penn Literacy Network partnership in the review process via Joe Ginotti.
- Next CAC meeting in January.

Public comment:

- Question raised about Physical Education and Health in the elementary schools. It was noted that satisfactory time and innovative teaching has given adequate attention to Health and PE in the elementary schools. It was also noted that stand alone required courses are still the expectation in the secondary levels.
- Member suggested partnering with volunteers to assist in some areas of instruction in the elementary schools. In particular, Guided Reading groups. This will be discussed at future CAC meeting.
- Question raised about acceleration and grouping. Discussion ensued about data to inform instruction and following IEP and GIEP recommendations/requirements.
- Concern regarding anxiety and student stamina raised and discussed. There are "Mindfulness" and "Grit/Rigor" activities in various forms across the district.
- Comment about what Proficiency truly reflects.
- Comment regarding Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Mrs. Keyes adjourned the meeting at 7:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Malone
Director of Elementary and Secondary Education