



Curriculum Advisory Committee

January 3, 2019

UES LGI

*Per BOG 006.2, all public meetings of the Board of Directors,
including committees, are audio recorded.*

Call to Order: 7:12 PM

Approve Minutes from the (11/1/18) CAC Meeting

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Membership to committee discussion
 - Has been quarterly, bimonthly, and monthly in the past
 - Bimonthly makes it hard to remember the schedule and would be consistent with other committees
 - Would monthly be burdensome for anyone?
 - No
 - Suggest we make it a monthly committee as of February, following SpEd committee
 - Voice vote aye. No dissenting votes
 - We can do joint SpEd/curriculum meetings as warranted.
- HS Course Selection Process - Informational for secondary students and parents.
 - Usually starts this time each year. January parent meetings to announce things. Requests will be gathered in the next few months to figure out staffing, rostering, etc. Teachers should have their tentative schedules by end of the school year, with student schedules published mid-August.
 - Important for students to make choices early, to help schools allocate staffing resources properly.
 - Mr. Seier has three copies of new course catalogues available and a summary for members present
 - In Business Ed, old course being brought back with new theme of college readiness. Mandatory course for 9th graders to start their planning for transitioning out of HS. New state regulations focusing on college and career planning, with emphasis on career. We'll be focusing on both and using this course to gather data from students early in HS about their interests to help guide their decisions re course selections and activities.



Curriculum Advisory Committee Meeting Sign-In and Attendance

Name (Please Print)	Committee (C) or Public (P)
Jennifer Frantz	(C) P
Michelle Casner	C (P)
Chris Lopez	(C) P
Erik Pedersen	(C) P
Amanda Benolken	(C) P
Mike McKenna	(C) P
Alyssa Marta	(C) P
Sarah Reeder	(C) P
Henry Elter	(C) P
Ellen Stiefel	(C) P
Stephanie Marrone	(C) P
Josh Hesney	C (P) ?
W. Sheehan	(C) P
Datti Umd	(C) P
Lauren McDonough	(C) P
Meg M. Suisse	C (P)
Tonya Grieco	C (P)
	C P
	C P
	C P
	C P

Please note: This sign-in sheet will be included in the meeting minutes and posted to the District's website.

- Already catching student interests among current 11th graders so they don't miss out. Now it just has to be captured in a digital portfolio. 10th graders next year.
 - Efforts will be moving down below HS to create a K-12 continuum of career awareness and readiness
- Good opportunity to align to new standards and regulations
- New courses:
 - ELA: Academic/professional business writing as a new non-AP elective
 - ELA: Love, War, and Vengeance: Shakespeare in Performance, new non-AP elective
 - To capitalize on interest in Shakespeare, effects on modern culture, etc.
 - SCI: Forensics is now 10-12
 - SCI: Human Anatomy becoming a full-year elective
 - **Question:** is there any possibility of offering this as a dual-credit course with Bucks Country Community College, now that it's going to be a year-long course?
 - Mr. Seier: We can explore. Right now, we do it the other way around, where they offer the course and then kick the credits back to us.
 - SCI: Modern issues in science. Will mirror, as elective, the mandatory Grade 11 social studies course on current events
 - SOC: AP Economics will run biannually with AP History, so that every student will have a chance to take both
 - LANG: Honors French 5 moving out, replacing with AP French
 - Some departments have no changes, some are eliminating courses that haven't been taken in 3 years (but can be added again down the road as needed)
- Textbook adoptions
 - AP Biology Textbook Adoption
 - Regularly have 2-3 sections of this course—one of the most popular
 - Need to renew our textbook to update and upgrade the text, which is somewhat out of date and which we don't have in sufficient numbers for the 75 students now taking the course.
 - Current text was purchased 8 years ago, in 2010
 - Not many different options for AP: they all have to align with the test.
 - This text is a bit more interactive and readable, while maintaining rigor.
 - Core text for three sections, plus ancillaries and access to online resources
 - Dr. Malone is asking for community review of the interactive link online, for discussion and QA at an upcoming CAC meeting.

- AP Bio text link below
<https://www.mheducation.com/highered/product/125982490X.toc.html>
- **Question** re online formative and diagnostic assessment materials newly being released by College Board, at AP Central, with additional practice materials
 - Dr. Malone: those are too new to have been reviewed yet, but the team will review.
 - Mr. Seier: whole new AP ordering process coming down the pike: students will have to request materials much earlier in the school year.
- **Question** re planned purchase amounts: are 75 sets enough, if the course is increasingly popular?
 - Dr. Malone feels it is, as enrolment overall is declining
- AP French Text Adoption (*tabled to February meeting*)
 - Have never offered before; had honors French 5 before
 - Piloting currently.
- AP Government Textbook renewal (*tabled to 2020 because of test changes*)
- Preliminary Future Ready PA Index Review
 - (*see Dr. Malone's slide deck, posted separately*) Link to Google Slide Show:
 - <https://www.mheducation.com/highered/product/125982490X.toc.html>
 - Used to be the state's school report card, with a single grade for the entire school. Educators didn't like it; community didn't understand it. State has changed what it's going to be doing.
 - New tool to measure schools, coming after ESEA passage in 2015. In 2018, the state reduced PSSA testing by 20% and established a new set of indicators:
 - State Assessment Measures
 - Proficiency and growth
 - On-Track Measures
 - English proficiency
 - Regular attendance
 - Grade 3 reading/grade 7 math
 - College and Career Measures
 - Graduation rate
 - Career standards benchmarks
 - At Grades 3, 5, 8, and 11
 - Use of *Naviance* has been pushed down into the MS and heading towards Grade 5
 - Industry-based learning and competency assessments (MBIT)
 - Rigorous courses (honors, AP)
 - Post-secondary transition to schools, careers, military
 - How will that be measured? TBD
 - Online dashboard already available at www.futurereadyPA.org

- For community to be able to disaggregate data and dig into what's going on in the schools—and compare to similar schools across the state.
- HS
 - One red (not meeting) area, is growing kids in ELA. They do well, but they're not doing better. We already exceed the state's 2030 goal. 91% of our students are proficient, but only 12% are advanced. That's the growth we need to show.
 - ELA Team is in curriculum review to assess strengths and needs. Looking at grade 10 PSAT results to help assess.
 - Other focus area, as always, is meeting the needs of our IEP subgroup
 - In all other areas, we're exceeding state averages and expectations.
 - **Question**
 - What percentage of our kids take advantage of their free Khan Academy resources after the PSAT?
 - Hard to know, but we've always pushed the resource. This year, we're forcing them to take advantage of it. It will count on the future ready index score, so we'll be requiring students to write reflections on their experience with it.
 - **Question:** the rigorous course score reflects what?
 - The numbers of kids engaged in AP
- MS
 - Similar story as the HS: moving more kids from Proficient to Advanced is the goal.
 - Changes to state tests makes tracking year-to-year difficult
 - 75-85% of MS students leave taking Algebra I, which makes PSSA feel secondary to them—so pushing kids into Advanced in math is a goal here.
 - Hard to show growth when kids are already scoring high
 - SpEd population is showing growth
 - LOTS of supports and interventions in place to catch students in need
- UES
 - All indicators are blue (meeting). Arrows point down, but that just means we went down from year to year. Assessment changes make year-to-year tracking very difficult. With reduction of test, every question is worth more, and missing a question hurts more.
 - Already meeting state's 2030 goals and well above current state averages
 - Double the number of advanced students over proficient students in all three tested subjects
 - Need to focus on improving scores in text-dependent analysis questions (state has indicated it as a focus area, too)

- Need to augment Everyday Math program to align better with PA CCSS
- Using Seesaw as digital portfolio, esp. for college-career work, to archive through grade 12
- LES
 - Dashboard is currently blank, because LES doesn't participate in state tests (start in grade 3)
 - Curriculum assessments and tests like DIBELS being used to track progress and identify need areas
 - Last April, looked closely at data and saw less growth in phonemic awareness than desired. Looked at programs being used—good program but not as aligned to PA CCSS as it could be. Identified Haggerty Phonics as a supplement for K-1
 - Adopted DIBELS math as a universal screener for K-5
 - Upcoming focus on writing across the content areas and using the same rubrics that Keystone/PSSA use
 - MTSS supports and interventions most important at LES, to ensure kids move up to UES as strong and capable as they can be.
 - Also using SeeSaw as a digital portfolio to start career awareness and interest
 - Keeping an eye on the trend lines in the other schools, to ensure the LES is preparing student as well as it can

Public Comment

- **Question: Art collection is back after being at the Michener museum during construction. Has it ever been used as a curriculum resource for teachers?**
 - **Dr. Malone: always planned to be hung throughout the district, but security concerns kept it all locked in place. If there's a way to open it up safely, we're all for it.**

Adjournment at 8:31