



**Southern Lehigh School District  
Education Committee Minutes  
October 7, 2024**

**Southern Lehigh School District  
Education Committee Meeting Minutes  
October 7, 2024  
Conference Room  
Southern Lehigh Administration Building  
5775 Main Street  
Center Valley, PA 18034  
Time 4:30 pm**

**Education Committee meeting minutes of October 7, 2024 pending approval.**

**1. Opening Procedures**

- a. Call to Order
  - i. Meeting was called to order by Timothy Kearney at 4:34 pm
- b. Recording of Attendance
  - i. Present: Timothy Kearney, Eric Boyer (remote by phone)
  - ii. Absent: Melissa Torba
  - iii. Others present: Dr. Karen Trinkle, Dr. Tamera Solometo

**2. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- a. [5/14/24 Education Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
  - i. The meeting minutes of May 14, 2024 were approved.

**3. RFP- Full Day Kindergarten**

- a. Dr. Karen Trinkle provided the following update regarding the RFP process for Full Day Kindergarten: RFP was due by 9/20/24. Two architectural firms expressed interest. Confirmed interview of both firms on 10/22/24 with a goal of a recommendation to the board for approval on 10/28/24.

**4. 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update**

Dr. Karen Trinkle and Dr. Tamera Solometo provided the following updates regarding the 2025 Comprehensive Plan: The **Comprehensive Planning Process** required by (PDE) is a systematic and collaborative approach that public school districts must undertake to ensure continuous improvement and effective use of resources. This process, which is typically updated every three years, guides districts in developing goals and strategies to enhance student



achievement, school climate, and organizational practices. We are in phase 3 and our plan will be due for review by March 31. This is organized into 3 planning sections: Ready, Set, Go.

#### **5. Curricular Updates**

Curricular updates presentation was provided by Dr. Karen Trinkle and Dr. Tamara Solometo. The following highlights were made: Curriculum and the educators are the main event and everyday do great work to prepare our students. Dr. Solometo provided a high level review of the K-12 Curriculum Cycle and reviewed the standard process (6 year process: needs assessment, curriculum review, implementation, monitoring). In each area of the curriculum review process, there are teachers and teacher leaders represented in this process, leading the discussion and conversation of the curriculum; course sequence, resource, and scope and sequence. The committee discussed the impact of the technology/digital component on the curriculum review process. We are always looking ahead and planning for the upcoming curriculum needs.

Dr. Solometo provided an update of the current implementation projects.

- a. Spanish Immersion
  - i. Dr. Solometo provided the following update regarding Spanish Immersion: Communication and support provided. Professional Development in April and again in October. Work is continuous and ongoing to meet the unique needs of the program. Support has been responsive and very supportive. Teacher feedback has been positive.
- b. ELA: (K-6) W&W and (7-12) Studysync
  - i. Dr. Solometo provided the following update regarding ELA: (K-6) W&W and (7-12) Studysync: Feedback from teachers has been positive and is off to a great start. Professional Development took place in March and August and time for collaboration to support instruction.
  - ii. Year 2 of W&W: Dr. Solometo provided the following update: coaching cycles taking place and to really offer more targeted Professional Development since this is in year 2.
- c. Social Studies Grades 6&7
  - i. Dr. Solometo provided the following update regarding Social Studies Grades 6 & 7: Feedback has been positive. Professional Development in April and September. With more independent time scheduled for October.
- d. Math Curricular Update Grades 6-12
  - i. Dr. Solometo provided the following update regarding Math Curricular Grades 6-12: Currently in the review process with a team of teachers leaders to review resources.
- e. NGSS Update K-12
  - i. Focus area: Grades 6-12
    - 1. Dr. Solometo noted the following: New academic standards for Science, Technology, Engineering, Environmental Literacy & Sustainability Adopted by the State Board of Education in January



2022 and alignment required by 2025-2026. Requirements require school districts create conditions for all students to be scientifically, technologically, and environmentally literate. This will look differently across subject areas in Science. Professional Development in various methods that have been in place since the beginning of 2023, with the consideration of curriculum adoptions (FOSS K-5- already NGSS aligned).

2. Reviewed PSSA Science for 5th and 8th grade being used for local reporting and will be considered a field test. This field test will be used to inform the 25-26 assessment. Biology Keystone will follow a similar approach to field testing and implementation for 25-26.
3. Discussed and compared old standards from 2002 and new standards with the shift from content based to skill based content. Additionally, core content will move from a one-dimensional concept to three-dimensional content. This will result in more depth and understanding.
4. Discussed the district wide implementation plan: **K-5:** Professional Development, integration of 3-Dimensional teaching practices, alignment of STEELS standards to FOSS instruction. **6-8:** Professional Development, integration of 3-Dimensional teaching practices, single-unit pilot of Activate/OpenSciEd in grades 7 and 8, curriculum review for new resources. **9-12:** Professional Development, integration of 3-Dimensional teaching practices, single-unit pilot of Activate/OpenSciEd in one Physics course, curriculum review for new resources. No new course offerings as a result of STEELS, however we do currently offer all courses required to be offered by STEELS (Biology, Chemistry, Physics). This will be multi-year, transformational as it has overlap with other content areas.

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Adjourn
  - i. Meeting was adjourned by Timothy Kearney a 5:46 pm

*Respectfully submitted by Dr. Karen Trinkle, Assistant Superintendent*