



**SOUTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

**Education Committee Meeting
High School Faculty Lounge Room
3/28/2011
6:00 PM**

Minutes

I. OPENING PROCEDURES

A. Time - *Call to Order* – 6:00 PM

B. Recording of attendance by the Secretary.

In attendance: *Joseph Liberati, Leah Christman, Joan Takacs, Ken Jordan, Patti Mohr, Corinne Gunkle, Bill Hayes.*

Visitor: *Karen Przelomski.*

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from February 2011 meeting: Approved

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Strategic Plan /Middle States Progress - Mrs. Christman

1. Mr. Jordan has set up Google groups and committees have been asked to submit SWOT activity within 3 weeks.
2. Data will be compiled and shared, discussed online, and the need for face to face meetings will be determined.
3. All adjustments (specific strategies) will be sent to the Board by June 13 for approval.

B. Weighted Grade/Transcript/Scheduling Committee Update - Mrs. Takacs

1. Group met to do SWOT and it has been posted on Spartandocs.
2. New process, expansion of topics to be discussed.
3. Changes to HS profile and Transcripts are being explored
4. Discussion to phase out class rank
5. Presentation by HS guidance on what colleges look for in a student. Highly selective and less selective colleges.
6. Current task in Googledocs is to examine change to transcripts to better capture student achievement.
7. Mr. Hayes shared that he contacted Mrs. Siegfried to have a presenter from Chestnut Hill hold a parent informational meeting.
8. Discussion on how to assist parents on the college application process and preparation - what can we do to get the word out about financial aid and other resources at an earlier age.

IV. NEW BUSINESS/ PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

A. Science and STEM Curriculum Council Presentations - Mrs. Takacs

1. Members of committee decided that their presentations were significantly different to warrant separate presentations.
2. Will be seeking members via website soon.

B. Update on Math pilot - Mrs. Takacs (for Mrs. Lewis)

1. Examined new K-6 series using Envision math. Teachers are happy with the program. Nice alignment to common core standards (conceptual approach).
2. 6th grade 'on-level' text will be part of secondary presentation and implementation.
3. Discussion on SMI and how it facilitates the District's ability to monitor student progress in math. SMI will also be used as a tool to gauge readiness for advanced math placement.

C. Field Trip Requests - Elementary

1. Longwood Gardens – LB 3rd grade

D. Field Trip Requests – Secondary

1. Special Olympics Track & Field Day – Key Club
2. Potential Chinese HS Competition at BCIU

E. Philosophy of Mid-term / Final Exams

1. Conversation regarding the purpose of the exams came out of Secondary meeting. Are they used as a guide for future instruction or as a high stakes, move on, type exam?
2. Mrs. Christman proposed having conversation. Can we be assured that teachers are using this data to drive instruction?

F. Extra-curricular field trip approval

1. Mr. Liberati raised concerns about the ability to approve last minute field trips that may be beneficial to the students. The committee agreed that the Superintendent or Asst. Superintendent have the discretion to approve trips in advance of Ed. Committee meetings and bring the items to the members later.
2. Mrs. Christman raised the idea to create a generic list for extra-curricular activities that allows for the essence of the trip but not calling out the specific event or date. A more comprehensive list of potential field trips in the beginning of the year will be submitted to the Board.

V. VISITORS' COMMENTS

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (ANY TIME IF NEEDED): None needed.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: 7:00 PM