

Minutes - Traverse City Area Public Schools

Board Curriculum Committee Meeting

January 30, 2023 @ 4:00 PM

Tompkins Boardman Administration Center, Conference Room C – 2nd Floor
412 Webster Street, Traverse City, MI 49686



Approved on February 27, 2023

PRESENT: Erica Moon Mohr, Beth Pack, Flournoy Humphreys, Dr. John VanWagoner, Kristin Perkowski, Joe Esper, Jessie Houghton, Heidi Maltby-Skodack, Kirsten Jones-Morgan

ABSENT: None

This meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent VanWagoner called the meeting to order.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Superintendent VanWagoner offered time for public comment and none was requested.

3. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

a. Draft Committee Meeting Minutes from November 28, 2022.

The Committee was asked if there were any changes to the November 28, 2022, Board Curriculum Committee meeting minutes.

November 28, 2022 Minutes are approved as posted.

b. Committee Organization Review

Flournoy Humphreys nominated Erica Moon Mohr as the 2023 Board Curriculum Chairperson; Beth Pack supported this motion. Erica Moon Mohr accepted the nomination of the 2023 Board Curriculum Chairperson.

Erica Moon Mohr will serve as the 2023 Chairperson of the Board Curriculum Committee.

c. TCAPS District Course Catalog Updates

Heidi Maltby-Skodack, Executive Director of School Improvement and Innovative Programs, reported the following recommended updates to the 2022-2023 Course Guide for second semester, dual enrollment: NMC MGT 251 Human Resources Management, NMC CIT 135 Intro to Programming using Python, NMC PHY 122L General Physics II Lab, NMC ECE 230 Early Literacy and Learning, NMC MFG 104 Fluid Power, and NMC MUS 116 Chamber Singers.

Kirsten Jones-Morgan, Executive Director of Student Achievement, reported the following recommended additions to the 2023-2024 Course Guide: Coding and Game Design 1, Sports Medicine, Algebra 1 Applied Concepts, and Digital Photography and Photo Editing.

The updates to the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 TCAPS District Course Catalogs will be added to the February 13, 2023, Board of Education meeting for approval under Consent.

4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. Elementary Math Pilot Update

K-12 District Math Curriculum Specialist / Central High School Principal Jessie Houghton provided an update on the elementary pilot. Math Expressions was adopted in June 2016 with a six-year district contract for program usage and materials. During spring 2022, small groups of teachers performed 'soft pilots' with sample curriculum materials throughout the district. In spring 2022, the district math leadership team selected *Into Math* to pilot during the 2022-2023 school year at five elementary schools: Blair, Courtade, Cherry Knoll, Long Lake, and Willow Hill. In addition, eighteen teachers at four other schools were selected to participate in the pilot curriculum. All other classrooms continued using *Math Expressions* on a one-year contract. Teachers piloting *Into Math* will receive another round of on-site professional development in February 2023 and the second survey for curriculum feedback will be performed in March 2023. The evaluation plan of *Into Math*

includes perception feedback of all teachers (two surveys) and parents (one survey), student achievement data (NWEA growth and achievement level), and program cost proposals. The parent survey results will be shared with the Board Curriculum Committee, when available. Over 53% of teachers surveyed are satisfied with *Math Expression* versus ~~39%-40%~~ satisfied with *Into Math*. Teachers using *Into Math* report more supplements at the lower grade levels and fewer supplements in upper elementary grades. Increases in the supplement of materials causes an increase in the variation of educational experiences by students. Late last week, the district was told Think Central, which is *Math Expressions'* online platform, was sunsetting it, but now it is not. The data right now is trending with the district staying with *Math Expressions* for another contract, but with the news about Think Central, we may deviate from that plan. The plan is to have a multi-year adoption in front of the Board by June 2023 at the very latest. Ms. Houghton can share examples and differences between the two curricula at a future meeting. Board committee members added that they appreciate the feedback from teachers.

b. Academic Communities

Ms. Houghton and West Senior High School Principal Joe Esper provided an overview of [Academic Communities](#). Over the next month, both high schools are working with middle school and high school students to make course selections for the 2023-2024 school year. Academic Communities came out of the visit last year to Kettle Moraine in Wisconsin. The new communities this year are Arts, Global Community, and STEM which now includes health science options. Academic Communities are not just about courses taken, but rather connecting those courses with deeper knowledge and skills engaging the students in authentic experiences within and beyond the classroom. With the graduating class of 2023, for the first time, the district will have diplomas with Academic Communities designations. Students can be a member of multiple communities. They also provided an overview of Integrated Programs which include SMT (STEM) and TIE (Trojan/Titan Integrated Experience). When students enter into these communities or programs it frees up time to take another elective. Ms. Houghton and Joe Esper also shared the opportunities available to students through the Career-Tech Center.

c. Strategic Plan Updates

Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Kristin Perkowski, provided an update on the Curriculum and Instruction team's work on the district's Strategic Plan. District teams established to date include: **Behavior & Emotional Support Team (BEST)**, Communications & Marketing Team, **Culture & Climate Team**, **Curriculum Leaders Team**, Emergency Operations Team, **Health & Well-Being Team**, **Instructional Coaches Team**, **Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Team**, **Professional Learning Team**, **Special Education/504 Advisory Team**, **Technology Curriculum Integration Team** noting that the teams in bold text are chaired or co-chaired by Curriculum and Instruction team member. The focus has been on establishing a clear purpose, ensuring diverse team membership with chairs/co-chairs, creating a consistent agenda structure, and holding initial meetings to lay the groundwork. Dr. VanWagoner will provide a detailed update on the strategic plan work to the full Board in March.

d. Celebrations & Successes

Ms. Maltby-Skodack highlighted the SMT Project Based Learning (PBL) project at West Senior High School and the AP CSP Michigan Tech Arduino project.

Ms. Jones-Morgan highlighted the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and that intentional work is being done across all TCAPS K-8 buildings.

Ms. Maltby-Skodack highlighted the robotics visit at both Central High School and West Senior High School. Committee member Pack joined in on the visits.

5. OTHER ITEMS

This meeting Adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Board Curriculum Committee Recording Secretary: *Kelly L. Walter*

Next Board Curriculum Committee Meeting

Monday, February 27, 2023 (4:00 p.m.)

Tompkins Boardman Administration Building – Conf. Room C, 2nd Floor

412 Webster Street, Traverse City, MI 49686

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

***Erica Moon Mohr (Chair), Flournoy Humphreys, Beth Pack, Holly T. Bird (alternate),
Dr. John VanWagoner II (Superintendent), Kristin Perkowski, Heidi Maltby-Skodack, Kirsten
Jones-Morgan, Tiffany Pomaville***