

Curriculum Committee Minutes

Location: Board Room

Date: 9/18/2023

Attendees:

Time: 5:00 p.m.

I. Call to order

Chairperson John Hoover called to order the regular meeting of the Programs and Policy Meeting at 5:00 pm September 18, 2023 in the Board Room in the admin conference room.

II. Attendance-

- Attendee Names: Tracy Doughtie, Alanna Huck, John Hoover, Linda West, Todd Outman, Jeremy Byrd, Amy Coots, Karen Farrer, Megan McConnell, Dave Messinio,

III. Old Business

- Graduation Requirements -
 - Alanna reported that many community members have communicated with her regarding Valedictorian/Salutatorian. Alanna recommends ending the Valedictorian/Salutatorian track. Discussion followed- Tracy commented that class ranking are needed because of scholarships. Tracy commented that while she does not like how rankings can be negative at times she believes ranking might encourage more rigor (students enrolling in AP, dual enrollment, and high level CTE classes). Perhaps rankings should not be so bold on


report cards. General opinion of committee is that tracks could be eliminated but class ranking still needed.

b) Weighted Grades -

- Alanna shared table titled "Unweighted vs Weighted Grading" The table showed one current HS class of students with their grades weighted at 1.05 vs their current unweighted grades. Intention of table was to show the change in class rankings. Out of the top 18 students, 13 of them changed ranking when weighted grades used. Dual enrollment, honors, and AP classes were weighted in the presented table.
- Jeremy shared that we/the school district can weight any classes we wish to. This could include higher level CTE classes. Weighting high level CTE classes may encourage more enrollment in these classes. Linda commented that she hesitates to support weighted grades because they don't include dual enrollment. Alanna commented that we can include dual enrollment and her presented table did include dual enrollment.
- Discussion was had on dropping honors classes because they are not truly honors but instead just regular level classes with just a few extra assignments added. Discussion included how dual enrollment is now equal to what honors was in the past. WASD currently offers 13 honors classes. Linda hesitated to drop honors classes.
- Dave shared a paper titled "Weighted Averages-Discussion Document"
- Amy commented that eliminating honors classes would open up scheduling for teachers and encourage more students to take dual enrollment and AP classes. AP and dual enrollment classes have a more concrete & nationally recognized structure versus our local honors classes.

c) Programs connected to WASD Budget

IV. New business

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- a) Government Text Book
 - Committee decided to not recommend this text for approval. Amy will approach teacher about other options.
 - b) General Education Program of Study
 - Amy will present this topic at next Board Work Session
 - c) Teacher/Administrator Shortages across PA-
 - Amy will present this topic at next Board Work Session.
 - d) Open Items for Discussion

COMMITTEE ACTION - the committee charged administrators to gather input from teachers (Mr. Byrd will use a survey) on the following items

1. Keep or get rid of honors classes
2. Keep or get rid of Val/Sal tracks
3. whether to weight classes, if so what classes

Another Curriculum Committee meeting will be added/held in October to review gathered information and decide what to recommend to the whole board.

V. Adjournment

Chairperson John Hoover adjourned the meeting at 6:40 PM.

Minutes submitted by: John Hoover

