

RICE LAKE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Curriculum Committee Minutes

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

6:00 PM

District Board of Education Room

- I. **The meeting was called to Order at 6:00 p.m.**
- II. **Roll Call—Present: Committee Members:** Keven Jensen, Tami Alberg, Janna Haack, Bill Schmitzer, Larry Brown, Barb Sparish  
**District Staff:** Melissa Fiamoncini, Randy Drost  
**Absent:** None  
**Community:** None
- III. **Barb Sparish, announced that notice of the meeting was communicated by public notice as required by 19.84 of WI statutes.**
- IV. **Approval of March 17, 2015 meeting minutes:**  
**Motioned by:** Janna Haack  
**Seconded by:** Bill Schmitzer  
All in favor
- V. **Elementary Literacy – Melissa Fiamoncini**  
Elementary Literacy Coach, Melissa Fiamoncini provided an overview of the literacy program at the elementary level. Melissa’s goals have been to provide professional development, best practices (guarantees), and data driven decisions to teachers.  
  
She is providing professional development for teachers to enhance the classroom teacher’s expertise in effective reading and writing lessons. Melissa is working with Middle School Literacy Coach, Kasey Kiehl to develop guarantees for literacy instruction. These guarantees will identify the literacy components, instructional minutes, resources, frequency of components, and data gathered. Melissa shared WKCE and STAR data which indicated growth in the area of reading.  
  
Teachers have been using new Journey’s resource. The Journeys program provides a clear scope and sequence, a quality technology components, a variety of assessments, as well numerous literacy resources for teachers. Melissa shared video clips of teachers utilizing the Journey’s materials.
- VI. **Elementary Open House/First Day – Randy Drost and Steve Sirek**  
Elementary Principal, Randy Drost presented elementary first day of school open house proposal. The first day would be devoted to individual appointments for students and parents to meet with the classroom teacher. Students and families will also have time to meet with other teachers such as music, art, physical education, guidance counselors, and other staff members. Parents can complete and hand in all necessary paperwork, and pay fees. Representatives from different organizations, such as Boys and Girls Club, bus garage, scouts, and 4-H would be invited to participate in the open house.

VII. **NCAA Course Changes – Barb Sparish**

Two courses have not been approved for NCAA accreditation. The course description for Language and Composition was approved last year, but the change did not get put in the course description book. It is requested to put the new description in the course description book and also change the name of the course to Personal Composition. There will be no curricular changes to the course.

It is recommended to revise the course description for Contemporary Literature to the following:

*Contemporary Literature is for students who like to read and talk about recently published literature that deals with timely issues affecting students' lives. It operates on the premise that literature spurs us into reflecting on our own world, making use of what are called "essential questions" that make literature serve the "real world," not the other way around. Students will read 5 contemporary novels as well as short stories. Racial prejudice, mental illness, the confusion of youth, war, and coming of age are some of the topics explored. Balanced literacy practices drive this course where students are encouraged to own their learning. Student choice of novels and stories empower learning.*

The committee approved the changes.

VIII. **Next Meeting:** May 19, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

- IX. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. by Bill Schmitzer and seconded by Janna Haack. All in favor.

Minutes submitted by Barb Sparish April 21, 2015.