

RICE LAKE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Curriculum Committee Minutes

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

6:00 PM

District Board of Education Room

- I. **The meeting was called to Order: at 6:00 p.m.**
- II. **Call to Order—Present: Committee Members** – Keven Jensen, Tami Alberg, Bill Schmitzer, Janna Haack  
**District Staff :** Larry Brown, Randy Drost, Steve Sirek, Dawn Schmitz, Melanie Herring, Curt Pacholke, Pete Kolpack, Barb Sparish
- III. **Barb Sparish, announced that notice of the meeting was communicated by public notice as required by 19.84 of WI statues.**
- IV. **Approval of November 18, 2014 meeting minutes:**  
**Motioned by:** Janna Haack  
**Seconded by:** Tami Alberg  
All in favor
- V. **Elementary Curriculum Update: Barb Sparish, Randy Drost, Steve Sirek, and Melissa Fiamoncini**  
Steve Sirek provided background information on the implementation of Literacy Collaborative in the district. Literacy Collaborative is a balanced approach to instruction, but how it was implemented in the Rice Lake Area School District did not offer a clear scope and sequence and materials were limited. Because of this, the district's reading scores have dropped over the past five years. The group shared how the Houghton Mifflin Journeys program fit with the balanced literacy approach and how the transition to this program would be easy and provide the resources teachers needed. Randy Drost shared the process used for selecting the Journeys resource. Site visits were completed, teachers reviewed materials, and a recommendation was made. Teachers were surveyed and all supported the purchase of the Journeys program. Teachers, Melanie Herring and Dawn Schmitz, shared their experiences with Literacy Collaborative and also their excitement of finally having quality resources at their fingertips. Barb Sparish discussed the importance of professional development when purchasing a resource of this nature and also provided the cost of the resources. The district will be getting over \$500,000 worth of materials for \$230,500. Barb is waiting to hear if the district qualifies for any additional discounts.
- VI. **High School Science & Math Graduation Requirements: Curt Pacholke , Pete Kolpack and Barb Sparish**  
Curt Pacholke communicated how the high school would use Agriculture teacher, Pete Kolpack, to teach Natural Resources and Veterinary Science and offer those courses for science credits. Pete Kolpack shared the syllabus for both Veterinary Science and Natural Resources courses, explaining what would be taught each week. Pete also shared the Agriculture/Science crosswalk he has completed. The crosswalk, syllabus, process and application form will be sent to the Wisconsin DPI for approval.

**VII. Curriculum Update – Barb Sparish:**

Barb Sparish gave a brief update of the 20 hour curriculum goals. She also informed the committee that the Board Finance Committee has approved increasing the Montessori enrollment through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade for next year. Finally, Barb shared the first draft of the curriculum guidebook which outlines the curriculum process and timelines.

**VIII. Next Meeting:** February 17, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

**IX. Adjourn:** Motion to Adjourn at 8:04 p.m. by Janna Haack and seconded by Tami Alberg. All in favor.

Minutes Submitted by Barb Sparish January 13, 2015.