



**KANKAKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 111
BOARD OF EDUCATION ~ COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Committee: Curriculum Committee

Date: September 13, 2017

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Place: Lincoln Cultural Center, 240 Warren Avenue Room 217, Kankakee, IL 60901

Committee Members present:

Mrs. Barbara Wells

Mrs. Angela Shea

Committee Members absent:

Mrs. Mary Archie (*entered at
5:25)

Other attendees:

Dr. Genevra Walters

Mrs. Felice Hybert

Mrs. Elizabeth Gibson

Mr. Neal Grimes

Mr. Robert de Oliveira

Mr. Timothy Butler

A quorum was declared present.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Barbara Wells.

Curriculum Committee Board minutes from the April 12, 2017 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Summer School Review - Mrs. Gibson and Mr. Grimes were coordinators of the District's Summer School programs. They presented a brief power point presentation of each program – Taft K-3, King 4-6, ESY K-12 and three separate Defined Stem Camps held at KCC. Of all the programs, the District received more than 500 applications and over 300 students were able to attend at least one or more of the programs. K-6 teachers were asked to provide evidence of learning by submitting a brief description of what was taught/learned at the end of each week.

Mrs. Gibson and Mr. Grimes did encounter a few challenges, with busing to KCC being the most prevalent. The coordinators recommended the following changes for next year: start planning and prepping along with receiving the rosters earlier and look at specific screener(s) for classes along with teacher manuals. Mrs. Wells asked how students were chosen to attend summer school. Summer school applications/letters were mailed to parents of students who building administrators felt there was an academic need. Mrs. Shea inquired if the teachers had taught

summer school previously, which some of them had. This was a question on the survey Mrs. Gibson and Mr. Grimes had each applicant complete. Mrs. Shea suggested having high school students be more involved with the summer school programs. Another suggestion was to have more communication with parents through Facebook, etc. Our JHS and KHS each held their own summer school program.

HS Freshman/Sophomore Report – Mr. Butler and Mr. de Oliveira gave a power point presentation for the class of 2020. Of the 347 student in the freshman class, 84.7% are on track to graduate. There were 55 students who failed one or more classes and 14 attended summer school; therefore, they were able to bring their grades up and are considered sophomores. The other 41 students are no longer at KHS, possibly at Avis Huff or no longer in the District. There were 70 students who were identified for summer school. Mr. Butler will receive weekly reports during the school year on the student's data for double block English and Math. Parents will continue to receive letters quarterly letting them see how their child(ren) are doing.

Mr. de Oliveira is meeting with the students who were identified as Tier 2 and Tier 3 students. He is speaking with each student to build trust and together they decide what needs to be done for each of them to get back on track. Also, letters have been sent to each student's parents with little response, but letters will continue to be sent until each student is on track. Mr. de Oliveira suggested making a model of what courses a student needs to complete with each student taking ownership of their courses. Students need to have more options; their homework should be personalized.

Currently, the High School is awaiting approval for the Apex Online self-paced program, which should also help students get on track. Another suggestion is giving students a detention for missing an assignment instead of a failing grade. Another way is being more proactive identifying Tier 2 and Tier 3 students. Mrs. Wells asked about mentors for the lower performing students and to track the data. There are research topics on higher performing students mentoring lower performing students.

Grade Level Reading Update – Mrs. Hybert presented graphs showing AimsWeb percentages for reading and math per grade level. First through third grade students showed strong phonics, strategic learning and a fluidity of reading. Blue Streak pilot will be used at Edison. For sixth and seventh grade students, there was a drop in math from 54% to 26%, especially in fractions. This could be due to the concepts are higher; the students may need a stronger foundation in algebra. We could be experiencing performance apathy because we are not teaching the way students learn.

PARCC Review – Mrs. Hybert presented graphs reviewing the District's scores from the State. Indications showed that students may need to take algebra 1 and geometry 1 earlier. PARCC scores were presented by building and subject.

Blended Learning Model – Administration would like to put in place Blended Learning, also known as personalized learning. Teach to One is not a product; it is a style of teaching. It can help a student's self-esteem to shift positively. Mrs. Shea has received phone calls from parents inquiring if Teach to One will replace teachers. Teach to One will not replace teachers. Administration will be holding a parent meeting on Tuesday, September 19th at 6:00 p.m. at the JHS, to explain Blended Learning in regards to algebra and geometry.

District of Distinction Award – Mrs. Hybert received a District of Distinction award from the ISBE for Redesigning K-12 Education for College and Careers. The District received a plaque for this

honor and will have the opportunity to travel to New Orleans. Dr. Walters said we should focus on the challenges we can solve. A picture was taken of the plaque held by the Curriculum Council Board members, Dr. Walters and Mrs. Hybert.

Fireside Chats – Dr. Walters is excited about the “fireside chats” she has held with different groups of teachers. Dr. Walters said teachers have excellent ideas and she is looking forward to more “fireside chats”. Mrs. Shea said retired teachers coming back to work is an awesome idea and a win win for everyone involved.

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM.