

South Middleton School District Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 14, 2022
at 6:00 p.m.

Committee Members: Bethanne Sellers (*Chair*), Eric Berry, Shannon Snyder,
Brad Group (*President, De Facto*)

Teachers: Michael Bogdan, *World Language Department Chair*

Administrators: James Estep, *Superintendent*
Tricia Reed, *IFES Principal*

- I. Meeting commenced at 6:02 p.m. – Began with Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Welcome and Introduction of Committee Members
- III. Old Business
High School Course Guide 2022-2023 recommended for approval to board at Jan. 10, 2022 meeting. Voting at Jan. 24, 2022 meeting, course guide approved.
- IV. New Business
 - a. World Language maps – Mr. Bogdan presented the World Language maps for grades 7-12 and clarified questions from the committee.
Grade 7 has a 30 day introduction to French and Spanish with the basics of culture, geography, and some vocabulary. Grade 8 language, either Spanish I or French I for all students except those students assigned to Reading 8. HS – levels I, II, III, IV, Honors and AP, plus Spanish VI. Block schedule allows completion of two years in both languages. HS graduation requirement is 2 credits/2 years of consecutive language. As part of the curriculum and purchasing cycle, resource materials were purchased 3 years ago. Now, curriculum maps have been designed and the resources are matched to these as needed. The vocabulary and grammar points are tied to topics rather texts. The world language department focuses on three modes including presentational communication, interpersonal, and interpretive.
 - b. K-5 Social Studies maps – Mrs. Reed shared that maps for grades K-3 have been completed, and grades 4-5 have about 1 full day of work remaining. They are working to seek additional resources. Grades 6-12 Social Studies will likely complete work for additional compensation over the summer. The content areas that PDE

outlines for secondary Social Studies curriculum include economics, civics and government, history and geography.

- c. Resource recommendations for board approval:
 - i. Epic recommendation – Briefing form shared by Mrs. Reed, reviewed Epic content for additional reading resources. Allows for parent link to see student’s reading material. Offers enriched and struggling readers’ materials at various levels. Has been in use at Rice and IFES, recommended by librarians in both buildings.
 - ii. Pebble Go and Pebble Next recommendation – Briefing form forwarded to committee members for this search engine for safe internet searching. Came to committee after our meeting, will be reviewed and brought to the board at a later date.
 - iii. Birmingham book recommendation – Tabled at this meeting due to lack of information presented. After further research, this related to the novel, *The Watsons Go to Birmingham*, which had been previously board approved and purchased for YBMS.
 - iv. Generation Genius recommendation – This program has been previously used by Science classroom teachers to booster science content through videos and lessons. In order for transparency, these resources that are widely used within buildings or the district are coming before C & I committee to be reviewed and vetted for board approval.

- V. Public Comment (2)

Mike Catarino – Kuhn Road, Resident of Monroe Township, Cumberland Valley School District resident. Visiting 17 area school districts to check on whether cursive handwriting is taught in our district.

Lettie McDonough – Leidig Road, echoed Mr. Catarino’s question to ask if cursive handwriting is taught at SMSD.

- VI. Motion and Vote for items to move to full board for approval
Motion for committee approval of World Language curriculum maps to full board, seconded and voted 3:3
Motion for committee approval of Epic and Generation Genius resources to full board, seconded and voted 3:3
WL maps and subsequent resources will go to full board for approval on March 7, 2022
C & I Committee report shared with full board at February 22, 2022 meeting

- VII. Adjournment at 6:49 p.m.

- VIII. Next quarterly meeting date:
Monday, May 9, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.