

NORTH PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT

EDUCATION/COMMUNITY/POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

August 14, 2017

6:30 pm

MINUTES

Members Present: J. Charnock, S. Leonard, T. Prykowski

Others Present: D. Holben, D. Grunmeier, B. Santoro

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 12, 2017

1. Approved

III. Topics Recommended for Action

IV. Topics for Information/Discussion

A. Special Content Areas Update

At this meeting the committee received updates regarding the special content areas of Health/PE, Art, Music, Family and Consumer Science (FCS), and Library. In Health/PE, 10th grade students will be trained in Hands Only CPR resulting in approximately 1,000 students per year being trained in this American Heart Association approved CPR method. For FCS, a curriculum review has been completed and equipment in the middle schools has been updated. In Art, there has been an expanded use of iPad Pros which has significantly improved the animation program at the high school. As a result of this technology being available to our students, the first North Penn student was selected into Disney's Animation Festival this year. In Music, the inventory of digital pianos was updated with the addition of six new digital pianos at the elementary level. Also, the music labs at Pennfield and Pennbrook are being updated. In Library, the use of Overdrive is continuing. This summer there have more than 200 checkouts, which is an increase of 73 checkouts as compared to the same time period last summer. Another addition to the libraries has been "makerspace areas" which provide space for students to collaborate and tackle a STEM or STEAM project that requires the use of critical and abstract thinking as well as problem solving skills. These "makerspace areas" are being piloted at the elementary schools and expanded at the secondary school. In addition, in order to meet the needs of digital researchers, the Library curriculum is being revamped.

B. Kindergarten Options – Additional Information

The committee also received additional information concerning possible Kindergarten options to address the changing demographics, student achievement, and increased rigor imposed by PA Core Standards. Included in the information presented to the committee were the Kindergarten programs provided by other school districts in our section of the state plus demographics and academic data in

North Penn. The possible Kindergarten instructional options are smaller class size, summer camp for all buildings, extended day kindergarten for students needing support, full day kindergarten, and increasing partnerships with local early learning providers and families. The administrative recommendation is to expand the pilot program of providing one section of extended day Kindergarten for students in need from the present two Title I schools to six Title I Schools. The committee is recommending that the matter be discussed at the September work session.

V. Student Travel

None

VI. Student Representative Update

VII. Other Business

VIII. Public Comment Summary

Community members addressed their concerns regarding larger class sizes at the elementary schools. In addition, community members provided feedback regarding the information about Kindergarten options that was presented.

IX. Summary of Items Recommended for Work Session/Action Meetings

There were no items to be moved to the Board Action meeting.

X. Next Meeting

August 14, 2017

XI. Adjournment

Meeting ended at approximately 8:21 p.m.