

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, February 16, 2016
GAUNTLETT CENTER BOARD ROOM

PRESENT: **Committee:** Mr. Leonard Altieri, Mr. Matthew Bilker, Mrs. Barbara Harvey

Board: Mr. A.J. Baker, Mr. Nicholas Reynolds, Mr. Matthew DeNucci

Administration: Dr. Carol Cary, Dr. Constance Bompadre, Dr. Steve Subers,
Ms. Sandra Schaal, Mr. Dennis Reardon

I. Call to Order

Mr. Altieri called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Altieri led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

The January, 2016 minutes were approved by the committee.

IV. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by the committee.

V. Discussion/Informational Items

A. Paws to Read – Mrs. Andrea Fiorentino, *Reading Specialist at PHMS*

Paws to Read is a literacy initiative which helps increase independent reading. Each week a guest teacher reads. Books are on display for students to check out. There is an incentive each month. This month there will be a visit from a shelter dog.

Mrs. Fiorentino also told the committee that the Reading Olympics will be held on May 3, 2016 at Radnor High School. Reading Olympics is a county-wide competition that encourages independent reading of literature and informational texts. It also develops teamwork and student participation.

B. Literature Circles in Social Studies – Mrs. Terri Harper & Mr. Dean Vlahos, *8th Grade Social Studies Teachers at PHMS*

Mrs. Harper and Mr. Vlahos wanted to support the English Department by holding their own Literacy Circles in Social Studies. Three books written about the Civil War Era are being read - Day of Tears by Lester Julius, Across 5 Aprils by Irene Hunt and Stonewall's Gold by Robert

Mrazek. The books are from different lexile levels to meet the varying reading levels of the students in a class. Students make connections in history class and develop collaborative discussions. Mrs. Harper and Mr. Vlahos said that the discussions are lively and that the students are enjoying the books. Some of the benefits of the Literacy Circle are that students make predictions and analyze characters.

C. Math Lab at Russell Elementary School – Mr. Dennis Reardon, *Principal*

Mr. Reardon thanked the CIT Committee for the opportunity to serve as principal to the Russell community. After reviewing PSSA data and visiting all math sessions at Russell, Dennis made it his personal goal to improve math scores. He believes that teachers teach good strategies, but that some students are sometimes intimidated. Therefore, one common strategy was designed. The group meets two times per week/45 minutes each time. The group is based on levels. The first 3 enVisionMath units are on problem-solving. A Gifted Support teacher and a Learning Support teacher co-teach in the lab. The Math Lab builds confidence.

VI. Motions

The following motions have been moved along to the full Board:

Graduation:

- A. Motion to approve the contract between Villanova University and Marple Newtown School district for the commencement event being held on June 16, 2016. The total cost to the district for the event is \$11,325.00. (The price is the same as last year's.)

Teacher Conferences:

- B. Motion to approve Mrs. Liz Mongan, teacher, to attend the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) in Hershey, PA on March 31-April 1, 2016. The cost of the conference is \$160.00. The total cost to the district is \$160.00.

Student Trips:

- C. Motion to approve Mrs. Cynthia Petty, teacher and Mrs. Sophie Martin, teacher, to travel with their students to the Hagley Museum in Wilmington, DE on March 29, 2016. The total cost per student is \$24.00 paid by the student. There is no cost to the district.
- D. Motion to approve Mr. Brian Isselman, teacher, Ms. Tracy Jacobson, counselor, and Mr. Mike Winterbottom, teacher, to travel to South Mountain YMCA in Wernersville, PA with the LINK students on April 8-10, 2016. The total cost per student is \$125.00 paid by the student. There is no cost to the district.
- E. Motion to approve Mrs. Nicole Wagner, teacher, to travel to Puerto Rico with approximately 30 students from the Foreign Language Department on April 8-13,

2017. The total cost per student is between \$1515.00 and \$2150.00, depending on total number of travelers, paid by the students. There is no cost to the district.

Student Athletic Trips:

- F. Motion to approve Mr. Steve Smith, coach, to accompany 30-35 High School Varsity/JV Baseball Players to travel to Ripken Baseball Stadium in Aberdeen, MD on March 22, 2016 for a scrimmage. The total cost to the district for transportation will be approximately \$385.00.

- G. Motion to approve Mr. Steve Smith, coach, to accompany 15-20 High School Varsity Baseball Players to travel to Calvert Hall college High School in Baltimore, MD on April 16, 2016 for a scrimmage. The total cost to the district for transportation will be approximately \$560.00.

Student Athletic Trips:

- G. Motion to approve the MNHS Fellowship Club. The purpose of this club is to provide students a place to support and encourage each other. Students with similar beliefs can come together to meet fellow Christians in the school. Students of non-Christian faith are welcome and they can learn about Christianity. The club advisor is Mr. Mike Snow.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Paine