

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

April 20, 2023

4:15 p.m. – Room 214

Minutes

1. Welcome/Introductions

Those attending in person: Shelley Arns, Sheldon Bailey, Todd Pettit, Kim Dinkheller, Erica Maynard, Cheryl Vogler, Jess Thorsen, Pat Arnold, Emily Pool, Janet Silas, Dennis Williams, Brenda Fleer, Macy Ferguson-Smith, Debbie Husar, Dr. Todd Porter, Stephanie Stephens. Rachael Petty attended virtually.

2. Committee Discussion Items

- **2023-2024 Course Updates and New Course Proposals -QHS/QJHS**

QJHS – Life Skills (COMET Course) – possible name change. Brenda Fleer, QJHS principal presented the proposal for the Life Skills course. They would like to reconfigure the elective and add a Life Skills class for 6th graders. The nine-week course will touch on mindfulness and self-care, safety, financial literacy and social media and community service. They could also add units on cooking and basic sewing skills. The other electives in the rotation have been computers, music, art and Project Lead the Way, Medical Detectives. Cost will come out of QJHS budget.

Member Arns asked for a motion to recommend Life Skills to the Board for approval. A motion was made by member Silas and seconded by member Arnold.

QHS – AP Pre-Calculus. Kim Dinkheller, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, presented this proposal to the committee as Jody Steinke, QHS principal, had an issue he had to attend to at QHS. This course is being offered by the AP for the first time. This is a pre-calculus course that is aligned to prepare students for the AP calculus course. This will replace the current Pre-Calculus honors course.

Member Arns asked for a motion to recommend AP Pre-Calculus to the Board for approval. A motion was made by member Williams and seconded by member Pool.

- **K-5 Literacy and Math Core Resource Pilot Plan Recommendation (2023-2024)**

Erica Maynard, Assistant Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment reviewed the K-5 Math and Literacy Pilot Process:

2022-2023

- **August 2022 – December 2023:**
 - Receive samples from companies; Meet with reps from companies; Review evaluations of programs on Ed Reports
- **January 2023- May 2023:**
 - K-5 Curriculum Alignment Team review sample materials against IL Standards Aligned Rubric and QPS Curriculum Maps.
 - (MAY 2023) Informational meeting with classroom teachers interested in piloting program during the 2023-24 school year.
- **June 2023**

- Recommendation to DIT for pilot during the 2023-24 school year
- Pilot materials available for public review (30 days)
- Professional development session for teachers participating in the 2023-24 pilot(s)

2023-2024

- **May 2023**
 - Attend Informational Meeting for Teachers interested in piloting
- **June 2023**
 - Professional session from the company/publisher on program (June)
- **September 2023 – March 2024**
 - Provide feedback monthly during the pilot (Qualitative)
 - Collect summative assessment data results (Quantitative)
- **April 2024**
 - Make recommendation for 2024-2025 adoption at DIT meeting
 - Public review of recommendation for 30 days
- **June 2024**
 - DIT recommendation to the QPS School Board

Erica also reviewed the K-5 ELA and Math samples that are being considered for the pilot. Each sample program also had an Ed Reports Score listed. ED Reports is nonpartisan, independent nonprofit providing rigorous reviews of the alignment and quality of yearlong instructional materials. This is a free resource and it does not make recommendations. Professional Development will be made available for teachers. Costs for the pilot are still being discussed, will determine if publishers will provide materials at no cost to the district. No board action is needed on this at this time.

3. Recommend to the Board of Education for Action

- Approval for QJHS Life Skills course
- Approval for QHS – AP Pre-Calculus

4. Consider any other matter relating to the District Improvement Process

- none

5. Questions and Comments from the Public

- Stephanie Stephens, QPS teacher, shared that she is excited about the pilots. She would like to see training in these new resources. She would also like to see an equity rubric to include all students.
- Dr. Todd Porter, representing Literacy Advocates of West Central Illinois, commented on expanding core classes in the older grades.

Dr. Todd Pettit, QPS Superintendent, commented on assessments and what is happening at the state level. There was also discussion on the benefits of the Illinois Assessment of Readiness.

- **A motion was made by member Bailey and seconded by member Pool to adjourn the meeting at 5:35**

1. **Next meeting June 15, 2023.**