Quincy Public School Curriculum Committee Meeting  
Board Office Conference Room # 231  
October 16, 2017 – 5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

A. Roll Call of members by the Committee Secretary
Sheldon Bailey, committee chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Members present: Members Arnold, Christensen, Rubottom, Vogler, and Zeidler; and the following members were absent: Rose, Teter. Whereupon the Chairman determined there were enough members present for a quorum.

B. Recognition of Visitors
Board members, staff and others present: Michaela Fray, Carol Frericks, Jody Steinke, Kim Dinkheller, Mike Troup, Jeff Kerkhoff, WGEM Reporter.

Approval of Agenda
Chairman Bailey asked if there were any items to be added to the agenda, member Zeidler asked that an update on science and technology be provided, as well as the KIDS assessment and upcoming report cards all be added to the agenda.

2. Questions and Comments from the Public
Jeff Kerkhoff distributed articles to those present and provided comment on each.

3. Committee Discussion Items

A. 2016-2017 Insights Report
Carol Frericks reviewed the 2016-2017 Insights Report. She explained that that this report uses data from Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®) to deliver crucial information about how well students understand instructional topics and detailed objectives—and how their knowledge and skills change over time. She shared that students K-10, as well as SPED students 11-12 take the MAP assessment. The students are assessed fall, winter, spring and some students are assessed following the summer school session. Each student receives a personalized score. District Median Achievement is at the 49th percentile, and District Median Growth is at the 57th percentile. The 2016-2017 district improvement goal was to increase student growth above the 50th percentile and that goal was reached. Carol noted that the district’s 3-year growth has been consistently improving, with an 8-point gain from 2015-2016 to 2016-2017. Carol attributes the growth to the following:

- District and School Improvement Team have common goals
- Teachers align instruction to standards
- Teachers provide high quality student learning tasks in classrooms
- Students are more familiar with MAP assessments and utilize goal setting
- Students receive immediate feedback with MAP assessments
B. District Improvement Team – Student Growth Fall Report

Carol reviewed the 2017-2018 district student learning goals noting the continued emphasis on ELA and math. The focus is on Math student learning goals in order to improve to the 60th percentile for Student Growth and the 55th percentile for Student Achievement. Reading goals include continue to improve above the current student performance at the 55th percentile for Student Growth and the 50th percentile for Student Achievement. MAP Student Progress Reports will be distributed at student conferences this month. Michaela Fray reviewed the student growth data by grade noting that there are multiple years of data in the report that allows educators to focus on trends. It was also noted that 10th grade students taking honors classes are not represented in this data. Jody Steinke shared that QHS is providing block classes for its most at risk students with the goal of closing gaps and achieving the norm or higher when tested. There was discussion on high school level integrated courses versus specific courses for math in Illinois schools. QPS is course specific, and it is not known if the students in the normative group are in course specific or integrated course schools. 8th grade students are not tested on science in MAP as they take the Illinois Science Assessment. It was noted that Project Lead the Way courses help to integrate the science curriculum at QJHS. Michaela reminded those present that 2nd grade students move from an audio delivered assessment in Grade K-1 to the students reading by themselves. Carol noted that the Insight Report verifies what we see in the MAP results. This is the first time that the Insight Report has been presented to the Curriculum Committee.

4. Recommend to the Board of Education for Action - None

5. Consider any other matter relating to the curriculum needs or concerns of the district

Science update – there will be a science coach in each new elementary building. Some schools have a science coach this year rather than a literary coach. Member Zeidler relayed teachers’ concerns that they feel they need more guidance on the new science materials. PD that was provided for all teachers at the beginning of the school year and during the Quincy Conference by the textbook publisher Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) was discussed. Michaela noted that there were 16 sessions offered at Quincy Conference by HMH. Technology - Technology issues were also discussed, specifically the lack of access to technology which prohibits access to the new online science materials. Michaela stated that technology concerns have been addressed with HMH and the QPS technology department. She also stated that training will continue to be provided for all science coaches. She noted that every classroom has access to all new science materials. Carol stated that if teachers need guidance with lessons they should request support from their
administrators or district science leadership team members. Member Zeidler relayed teachers’ concerns over the amount of time given to enter grades/performance descriptors into the report card online in Skyward. Carol stated that the dates for entering data into the report cards were set in early September by district-wide consensus, and that an additional weekend was added, the weekend following Quincy Conference, at the teachers’ request. Jan shared that there were technology issues that weekend and Skyward was not accessible. It was noted that the tech request form on the QPS website is open 24/7. The period for entering grades in Skyward provided eight school days and a weekend for K-5 educators. District leadership teams are working to shift K-5 grading and reporting so that the information can be entered throughout the quarter with input from educators for ELA, math and science.

KIDS Assessment – Member Zeidler relayed teachers’ concerns about the timing of the KIDS Assessment. Michaela stated that the date was established by KIDS and was to be administered by the 40th day of enrollment. There are three rating periods but only one is required by KIDS and the district chose to enter only one, in the fall. Member Zeidler also commented that the KIDS Assessment is a play based assessment and classrooms are set up for academics. Carol and Michaela discussed providing information so educators could learn how to use the assessment data for meeting academic and social learning standards.

6. Adjourn – 6:21

   Next Meeting – November 13, 2017 – 5:00 p.m. RM 231 BOE