

Quincy Public School Curriculum Committee Meeting

Board Office Conference Room # 231

July 13, 2015 – 5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

A. Roll Call of members by the Committee Secretary

Sheldon Bailey, committee chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Chairman Bailey directed the Committee Secretary to call the roll. On the call of the roll, the following members were present and answered to their names: Members Bailey, Arnold, Cashman, Kuhlman, Rubottom, Teter and Zeidler; and the following members were absent: Members Rose and Vogler. Whereupon the Chairman determined a quorum was present.

B. Recognition of visitors

Chairman Bailey recognized the visitors and thanked them for attending the meeting. Board members, staff and others present: Carol Frericks, Dave Boster, Michaela Fray, Carol Nichols, and Ed Husar.

C. Approval of the agenda

Chairman Bailey added the following topics to Item 4: Topics raised by Committee Members of the agenda as requested by:

- Carol Nichols – Ratio of digital devices
- Member Cashman – Alignment of accelerated curriculum at Baldwin

Approval of the agenda was moved by Member Rubottom and seconded by Member Kuhlman.

2. Committee Discussion Items

A. Digital Conversion for Teaching and Learning Initiative

The district Rising Star Continuous Improvement Team (RSCIT) is moving into the third year of the Digital Conversion for Teaching and Learning Initiative. The RSCIT updated the Digital Conversion timeline for the 2015-2016 school year including three SMART goals and objectives for professional development, resources and parent/community engagement. The Curriculum Department and the Finance Department have developed a plan for approval at the July BOE meeting.

A discussion was held on the following topics:

- Information on expanding Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program for students was sent out in registration packets to families, and the guidelines and safeguards for BYOD.
- A cost effective lease levy for laptops to be provided to all teachers is being considered, similar to the lease levy the district currently has for district copiers. It was noted that most classrooms have a projector or SMART Board.
- Each building has turned in a 5 year Technology Plan which will be reviewed by the Finance Committee before being recommended to the Board.

Chairman Bailey asked if the committee members agreed with this initiative and it was moved by Member Rubottom and seconded by Member Teter to approve.

B. Graduation Proficiency Requirements

The QHS administration revised the Graduation Proficiency Requirements for the 2015-2016 school year. The revised requirements will be included in the Course Description booklet and Student Handbook. The new PARCC assessment and the new Illinois Learning Standards will be incorporated into the revised Graduation Proficiency Requirements. It was noted that students must complete credits and meet proficiency for English Language Arts and Mathematics.

C. Standards-Aligned Grading and Reporting

As a result of the Assessment Inventory completed by the Citizens Advisory Council (CAC), the Curriculum Department will engage in the following tasks.

Recommendation	Rationale	Authority	Timing of Recommendation	Action Steps
Create a task force to determine best practices with regard to research on grading, including recommendations on the current practices of 80/20, retakes and homework by the 2016-2017 school year.	Provide district- wide guidelines with procedures on best practices for grading, retakes and homework.	QPS Academic Department with authorization from the Board of Education Curriculum Committee	June 2015-Share completed Assessment Inventory with BOE Curriculum Committee, QPS Administration and ISBE. 2015-2016 Task Force	1.Task Force-2015-2016 School Year 2.Present to BOE Curriculum Committee-Spring 2016 3. Implementation-2016-2017 School Year
Create a task force to design and implement a standards-aligned report card for K-5 by the 2016-2017 school year.	Provide effective reporting to parents for individual student growth aligned to new Illinois Learning Standards.	QPS Academic Department with authorization from the Board of Education Curriculum Committee	June 2015-Share completed Assessment Inventory with BOE Curriculum Committee, QPS Administration and ISBE. 2015-2016 Task Force	1.Task Force-2015-2016 School Year 2. Present to BOE Curriculum Committee-Spring 2016 3.Implementation-2016-2017 School Year

Carol invited Curriculum Committee members to either chair or participate in the task force opportunities. Carol noted that there will be 2 task forces, one for Standards-Aligned Grading Practices and one for Standards-Aligned Reporting. Teachers, administrators and parents will also be invited to participate. Carol noted Member Vogler has agreed to participate in the task force on Standards-Aligned Grading Practices. The following Curriculum Committee members agreed to participate:

- Kuhlman –Standards-Aligned Grading Practices
- Zeidler – Standards-Aligned Grading Practices K-3
- Teter- Standards-Aligned Grading Practices K-5

D. Mission and Vision Report

The QPS mission and vision statements are posted in schools, classrooms and on websites. District flags are utilized for meetings and recruiting. Administrators have business cards and teachers have the option to purchase the same card template. Carol noted that the Curriculum Committee revised the Mission and Vision statements last year and sent them to the Board for approval. Chairman Bailey recommended that the Board members have business cards also.

3. Recommend to the Board of Education for Action – None

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

- **Topics raised by Committee Members**

Ratio of digital devices – Joel Murphy stated that the ratio depends on how they are being utilized. For example MAP testing is 1 to 1. QHS 5 year technology plan includes a request for all incoming 9th graders to be provided with a device. Joel stated that currently our overall ratio is 2.5 students to 1 computer, with QHS being closer to 1 to 1. Carol Nichols pointed out that we must look at governance, self-evaluation and laws, the Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act as they relate to our policy. Goals and directives should emanate every year and should be assessed on how they fit into the vision for our district.

Alignment of accelerated curriculum at Baldwin – Carol noted that the resource Glencoe Accelerated Math for 6th graders has been implemented for the purpose of alignment 7-9. Member Kuhlman said she had met with Elementary Academic Director Julie Stratman regarding curriculum alignment. The option of additional students being admitted to the accelerated programs as their scores and performance improve was discussed. Member Cashman would like to follow the 6th grade students who attended summer school and chart their progress in 7th grade to see if they improve or if they will again be eligible for retention. Carol noted that no students would be identified, this would be done anonymously.

5. Questions and Comments from the Public

Jeff Kerkhoff commented on the grading policy for grades K-2. He also distributed an article to all those present on *English Class in Common Core Era: 'Tom Sawyer' and Court Opinions*.

6. Adjourn – 6:15 p.m.

Next Meeting – August 10, 2015 – 5:00 p.m. RM 231 BOE