

Quincy Public School Curriculum Committee Meeting
Board Office Conference Room # 231
March 14, 2016 – 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. 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 Arnold, Cashman, Rose, Teter, Vogler, and Zeidler; and the following members were absent: Member Rubottom. Whereupon the Chairman determined a quorum was present.

B. Public Comment

Member Bailey also asked if there were any topics to be added to the agenda and there were none. The agenda was approved. Sheldon asked Jody Steinke, QHS Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction about the student interest in the new courses that have been added and Jody stated that the numbers are looking viable; he will know more when registration is complete.

Board members, staff and others present: Julie Stratman, Roy Webb, Jody Steinke, Kim Dinkheller, Jen Drew, Michaela Fray, Jeff Kerkhoff and Deborah Husar (Quincy Herald Whig)

2. Committee Discussion Items

A. Rising Star Continuous Improvement Team Report: Fall to Winter Student Growth

Julie Stratman presented the *Student Growth Report: Fall 2015 – Winter 2016* to those in attendance. She shared that QPS students are showing growth and are closing gaps. Julie noted that this data is representative of where all of our students are at this moment. Julie also shared that the assessments are increasing in difficulty as the year progresses; the students are not being assessed on the same standards and concepts that they were assessed on in the beginning of the school year. Julie went over the District Goals; again noting that the data presented this evening represents all students. She stated that the district goal is for 75% of K-12 students with at least 90% attendance to meet or exceed grade level goals in math, and English Language Arts by June 15th. That data will be presented in the end of the year report. Julie noted that all parents receive a *Parent's Guide to MAP® Assessments* to provide explanation on the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Assessments with the hope that it will encourage conversations between parents and teachers on the assessments. Julie stated that the winter MAP scores will be going home with the student's report card. Jody provided explanation for the discrepancy in the number of QHS students represented in the Pre-Assessment and the Mid-Year (Fall to Winter) Assessment; noting that some students may have dropped the course, or moved or were absent on the day of the assessment. Also, if a student only took one of the two assessments, their data was not included in this report. Kim Dinkheller, QJHS Assistant Principal gave an overview of the 7-9 data included in the report. She noted that there has been a normative data change, Northwest Evaluation Service (NWEA) has updated their norms, and they are now using 2015 norms. Julie stated

that all students K-3 were assessed except those that take Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessments. She also pointed out the growth they are seeing in Pre-K and Transitional-K data. There was discussion on administering MAP versus Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments. Sheldon Bailey noted that 10.2 million students from 49 states are represented in the MAP normative data.

B. Textbook Adoption Update

Jody presented a proposal to adopt the following textbook for QHS:

- AP Government: Government in America 16e2014 Election Edition 2016 AP Edition plus Test Prep for AP® with MyPoliSciLab with Pearson eText (up to 6 years)
- Cost: \$9,163.05 for 65 textbooks (140.97 each)

A copy of this text will be on display in the office of Carol Frericks, Secondary Academic Director, for 30 days.

There was discussion on the new Illinois Social Studies Standards; College, Career and Civic Life (C3) Framework, and the need for social studies resources at the elementary level.

C. Proposal for Two Additional Earlybird/9th hour Driver's Ed Teachers

This proposal will add 2 Earlybird Driver's Education teachers, which will put an additional eight students through the behind-the-wheel training. This will enable students to get their license as close to their 16th birthday as possible. The impact on students scheduling, should the proposal be accepted, was discussed. It was noted that adding the 2 additional teachers will not cost the district anything. Students pay a \$250.00 driver's education fee, except those eligible for free or reduced lunch; also the state does provide some reimbursement for the behind-the wheel-training.

3. Recommend to the Board of Education for Action

No Board action, the textbook proposal will be tabled for 30 days. Member Bailey did ask for a motion to consider the QHS AP Government textbook proposal. A motion was made by member Teter, and seconded by member Cashman.

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

- Topics Raised by Committee Members –
 - Change in K-6 summer school location, it will be held at Adams School. Also the format will change, there will be a morning session (1.5 hr.) with a 30 minute lunch period, followed by an afternoon session (1.5 hr.), with 2 teachers in each classroom. Julie stated that this will provide shorter more focused sessions, and will allow more students to be served. They will focus on reading and writing with a 15 minute independent segment using Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces (ALEKS).

- Transition for teachers and students from Baldwin to QJHS - Dan Sparrow, QHS Principal and Raquel Piazza, QPS Public Information Officer, visited all 6th grade classrooms at Baldwin to answer questions. Kim has plans to meet with all Baldwin teachers transitioning to QJHS to help prepare them for next year. Also, there is parent meeting scheduled. The amount of homework for students at Baldwin versus QJHS was mentioned. The teaming concept and its benefit to new students were discussed. The Home Access System for grades was discussed.
- Member Cashman asked if 6th grade Spanish was being considered. There was discussion on the benefits of providing students in the lower grades the opportunity to learn a second language.
- Enrollment numbers for the new elective courses should be available by the end of this week.

5. Questions and comments from the public

Jeff Kerkhoff distributed 2 articles to those present. He also commented on the proposed textbook and the benefits of using supplemental teaching materials.

Member Cashman commented on the passing of former Curriculum Committee member Lauren Kiest, noting that he was a strong advocate for Quincy Public Schools and will be missed.

Adjourn – 6:13 p.m.

Next Meeting – April 11, 2016 – 5:00 p.m. RM 231 BOE