

## Quincy Public School Curriculum Committee Meeting

Board Office Conference Room # 231

April 11, 2016 – 5:00 p.m.

### 1. Call to Order

#### A. Roll Call of members by the Committee Secretary

Sandi Rose committee co-chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Member Rose 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, Rubottom, Teter, Vogler, and Zeidler; and the following members were absent: Member Bailey. Whereupon the Chairman determined a quorum was present.

#### B. Public Comment

Member Rose also asked if there were any topics to be added to the agenda and member Rubottom asked that an update on assessments be added. The agenda was approved.

**Board members, staff and others present:** Carol Frericks, Julie Stratman, Roy Webb, Kim Dinkheller, Danielle Edgar, Mike Stephens, Mark Pfeiger, Kate Schumacher, Michaela Fray, Jeff Kerkhoff and Deborah Husar (Quincy Herald Whig), WGEM Reporter

### 2. Committee Discussion Items

#### A. Textbook Adoption

**Quincy Senior High School (QHS) -** Carol Frericks asked if there were any additional questions or comments on the *AP Government: Government in America* textbook that has been on display in her office for the past month. Quincy High School AP Government teacher, Mike Stephens, spoke on the content of the textbook, noting that the textbook is approved by the College Board. He pointed out that the textbook is designed for AP coursework by providing complex and rigorous text, which will help to prepare students for the AP exam. It was also noted that AP Government is a full year class, while other government classes run for 1 semester. Carol shared that we are asking for a recommendation to purchase the textbooks along with the 6-year online subscriptions.

#### B. Quincy Junior High School (QJHS) Project Lead The Way (PLTW)

Kim Dinkheller, QJHS Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction provided an update on the QJHS transition plan that was first presented to the Curriculum Committee in December. Kim noted that after meeting with the district Computer Science planning team, which includes QJHS and other K-12 staff members, the computer curriculum was revised. She shared that *PLTW Introduction to Computer Science* will be utilized at QJHS in preparation for the Computer Science pathway that is currently in place at QHS. There was discussion around the fact that students who have taken computer science courses in the past, at the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade level, traditionally do not take exploratory arts courses. Kim shared that QJHS is exploring ways to provide students the opportunity to take computer as

well as exploratory arts classes. There was discussion on expanding the focus on digital literacy skills, including key boarding skills, for students in K-5. Member Rose will present this update to the Board at the April 20, 2016 meeting.

**C. QAVTC Diesel Equipment Technology Update**

Carol noted that the *Diesel Equipment Technology* coursework was approved by the Curriculum Committee last year; initial implementation with one course in August of 2015 with full implementation by August 2016. Mark Pfeiger, Director of Quincy Area Vocational Technical Center (QAVTC), provided an update on the *Diesel Equipment Technology* program, noting that the first course is going well this year, the current enrollment is 25 students. Mark provided a course outline for *Diesel Equipment Technology 2* which will be offered next year and he expects to enroll 32 QPS and Quincy Notre Dame students, and possibly 12 students from the surrounding counties. Mark shared that this program serves the community needs better than the prior *Auto Body Program*. Mark stated that this year the focus has been on basic systems, and next year there will be more focus on diagnostics and problem solving. Mark said he plans to build an internship/job shadowing component into the program in the future. Mark shared that he and Carol have been in dialogue with John Wood Community College (JWCC) regarding possibly providing dual credit to QAVTC students enrolled in the *Diesel Equipment Technology* program, as well as providing JWCC students the opportunity to enroll in the program, possibly in the evening class. Mark stated that he is currently reviewing a consortia agreement from JWCC. There was discussion on National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) certification for students as well as scholarship opportunities, and the opportunity to possibly provide an associate degree for students who complete the Diesel Tech program as well as take additional coursework through JWCC.

**D. QHS Guidance Counseling Transition Plan for 2016-2017**

Carol stated that updates on the Guidance Counseling transition plan are being provided to the Curriculum Committee and the public, with updates on other departments, such as music to be provided at a later date. Danielle Edgar, Principal of QHS stated that a parent forum on the Transition Plan was held in February and was well attended. Danielle provided an outline of the current Guidance Counseling structure as well as the new structure to be implemented in the 2016-2017 school year. Parents and students will have access to a support team of three counselors/deans in the new structure versus one individual in the current structure. These same counselors and deans will follow students throughout their high school career. This will result in a reduced caseload for counselors providing them the opportunity to focus on transition planning, offering social-emotional support, and the students portfolio can be managed by the same grade level team throughout their high school career. All QHS guidance counselors will serve in the College and Career Counseling Center and will provide support for students and families. There was discussion on the

guidance and career counseling support that will be provided to each building district wide. Danielle provided an outline of the 9-12 *Career Cruising Curriculum* for 2016-2017.

### **3. Recommend to the Board for Action**

Member Rose asked for a motion to recommend to the Board to approve the adoption and purchase of the *Government in America 16e 2014 Election Edition ©2016 AP Edition plus Test Prep for AP® with MyPoliSciLab with Pearson eText (up to 6-years)* textbook bundle, 65 textbooks and 65 eText for Quincy Senior High School. A motion was made by member Cashman and seconded by member Arnold.

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

- **Topics Raised by Committee Members –**

Member Rubottom asked for an update on the status of assessments utilized by the district. Julie Stratman provided an explanation of the assessment inventory review process for K-5, as well as the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA) approval process for assessments. It was noted that assessments must be efficient and impact instruction. There was discussion on State assessments and the timeliness of the feedback provided to impact instruction, as well as continuing to reduce the load on teachers.

There was also more discussion on providing dual credit opportunities to QPS students, as well as the changes that were made to the Illinois Community College Board rules and regulations requiring that a teacher have a Masters in the content area to teach courses for dual enrollment. Distance Learning, partnering with JWCC and Quincy University were also discussed. Providing incentives to teachers to obtain a Masters in content area was also brought up.

Visual Arts meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 to discuss the future of K-5 art instruction.

There was a question on quarterly reports on retention, this will be provided at next month's meeting.

### **5. Questions and comments from the public**

Jeff Kerkhoff distributed two article to those present. He noted he had reviewed the AP History and AP Government textbooks and provided feedback on both texts.

### **6. Adjourn – 6:26**

**Next Meeting – May 9, 2016 – 5:00 p.m. RM 231 BOE**