

Quincy Public School Curriculum Committee Meeting
Board Office Conference Room # 231
September 14, 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, Rose, Rubottom, Vogler and Zeidler; and the following members were absent: Member Kuhlman. 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 the following were added:

- Process for scheduling Curriculum Nights
- Update on the Standards Aligned Grading and Reporting Task Force
- School Start time

C. Approval of the agenda

It was moved by Member Rubottom and seconded by Member Vogler to approve the agenda.

Board members, staff and others present: Carol Frericks, Julie Stratman, Cal Lee, Michaela Fray, Carol Nichols, and Ed Husar, Kate Schumacher, Denise Drebes, Jeff Kerkhoff and Kendra Whittle (WGEM)

2. Committee Discussion Items

A. ISBE District/School Report Card Format

Julie Stratman began the discussion by reminding those present that the Illinois Report Card format was changed two years ago. She stated that the revised Illinois Interactive Report Card (IIRC) site was introduced to the Board two years ago. Julie noted that the District/School Report Cards are available to view on the Quincy Public School (QPS) website under Curriculum and Instruction. Carol Frericks pointed out that the Illinois At-A-Glance Report Cards on the QPS website do not provide the detail that can be found at the (IIRC) website. A brief video was presented that explained what information is contained in the Illinois Interactive Report Cards. It was also noted that the reporting has transitioned from reporting Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) to reporting Student Growth Metrics. Carol demonstrated how to navigate the IIRC site, noting the interactive features.

B. 5 Essentials Report

Carol stated that the 5 Essentials Survey Report is based on twenty years of University of Chicago research has shown that schools that were strong on at least three of the 5Essentials were 10 times more likely to make substantial gains in reading and math. It was noted that all students (6-12), teachers and parents are invited to participate in the survey. Teacher participation has been close to 100 percent. She explained that the data from the survey is analyzed in order to set goals. She noted that a snapshot of the process used in analyzing the data was displayed on the wall in RM 231. Julie read the survey questions to those present for the areas that showed growth for ELA and Math. The data will be public on the Illinois Interactive Report Card website soon. Goals will be set at the district and building level for school improvement planning. There was discussion on the term “Moderately Organized” as it is used in the 5 Essentials Survey results. There were suggestions made on how to get the 5 Essential Survey results in front of parents. Suggestions included, press release about school report card, put on PTA agendas, put on individual school Facebook pages and provide assistance to parents to access the survey.

C. Junior Achievement Update

Denise Drebes, Junior Achievement in Northeast Missouri and West-Central Illinois District Manager provided an update on JA programs in place at QPS. It was noted that the new 8th grade program *Start with the End in Mind* will include a Career Fair for all 8th graders on November 24, 2015. The program is divided into 4 sessions, split amongst team teachers for each subject area. A student interest survey will be taken to determine career fair volunteers. Volunteers are also encouraged to talk to students about classes they took in school that were helpful to them in their careers.

Julie noted that a week long Career Fair for grades 4, 5 and 6 will be held in the spring. Denise pointed out that the JA programs have been renovated to keep them current and relevant. It was also noted that BYOD has aided in the implementation of some of the updated JA programs which are electronically based. It was pointed out that JA was introduced in 6th grade this year. The importance of securing more volunteers for JA was discussed and suggestions were made to reach out to Quincy Service League, Knapheide Manufacturing and ADM. Member Bailey noted he will provide a brief update on JA at the next Board meeting on September 23, 2015.

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**

- Accelerated Curriculum Alignment - Julie Stratman was provided information on accelerated curriculum from previous years by Member Kuhlman. The program has transitioned from Talented and Gifted (TAG) to Accelerated. Julie explained what criteria are used in selecting

students for the Accelerated Curriculum; these include MAP, KRANZ, teacher input and the Stanford test. Stanford will not be used next year in the selection process as the test was discontinued 2 years ago. Also Fountas and Pinnell and student grades can be used in the selection process if the student's scores and assessments support that. The team approach used for reevaluating a student who begins to falter was discussed. Concerns over some accelerated student's study skills, behavior, and falling behind on homework were voiced. Students are not retested between 4th, 5th and 6th grades, but if there is a concern they will be reevaluated. QJHS criteria for accelerated curriculum were discussed and these include MAP scores, writing proficiency, and general performance with grades. They are always assessing, and students are able to accelerate beyond the accelerated curriculum. Students/Parents also have the option to opt out of the program.

- Curriculum Nights schedule - Schools can use the district calendar of events on the QPS website to schedule their Curriculum Nights in order to avoid conflicting with other schools.
- Task Force for Standards Aligned Grading and Reporting Practices - The task force has been selected and the leaders will be attending Professional Development on *Standards Based Grading Series: Developing a Building/District Grading System*. It was determined that Members Teter, Kuhlman and Vogler will participate on the task force.
- School start time – A later school start time was discussed. The data supporting a later start time will be reviewed and discussed by the administration, as well as how the new grade level configurations at QPS would be impacted by revising the start times for schools.

5. Questions and Comments from the Public

Jeff Kerkhoff handed out an article entitled *Bye, Bye American History* and commented on later start times for students. Carol Nichols asked for clarification on the number of people who completed the 5 Essential Survey. She also commented on role maturity plays in a student's success in accelerated programs.

6. Adjourn – 6:35 p.m.

Next Meeting – October 19, 2015 – 5:00 p.m. RM 231 BOE