

Curriculum and Program Development Committee

MINUTES

October 22, 2013

Committee Chairperson Jeff Spoehr called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. Members of the committee in attendance were Jeff Spoehr, Jean Maurice Boyer, and Michelle Swardenski. The absence of Kirk Leaser was excused. Board of Education members John Lehman and Christopher Kunz were also in attendance. Administrators Mary Pfeiffer, Steve Dreger, and Sue Nenning were present, as was Kathy Paulus, Chair of the World Language Department and member of the World Languages Committee.

Open Forum

No one addressed the Committee in open forum.

Criteria for Placement in Advanced Courses at Shattuck Middle School

Sue Nenning introduced Stephanie Phernetton, Principal of Shattuck Middle School, to discuss the process of placement in Advanced Courses at Shattuck Middle School. Stephanie informed the committee that there are four advanced classes taught at Shattuck. These are the 9th grade advanced classes also taught at Neenah High School. They are Advanced Geometry, Advanced English, Advanced Global Studies, and Advanced Physical Science. Stephanie indicated the criteria were determined by a committee. A student must meet four of the five qualifications: 3.8 GPA or higher, teacher recommendation, must be proficient in both areas of WKCE exam, must get at least a 21 on the ACT EXPLORE test, and must also get at least a 21 on the corresponding English/Reading or Math benchmark portion of the EXPLORE test. She indicated that for Advanced Geometry, other performance indicators are used. Mrs. Phernetton indicated that 50% of eligible students are qualifying for the advanced classes and that they do not make exceptions for students who do not meet the qualifications. Committee members asked for information on the success of the students, and how many, if any, do not succeed in the class.

World Language Discussion

Sue Nenning led a discussion of the World Language report and the FTE information provided to the Committee. There was much discussion regarding whether the Board would support, and the District could afford, the overall 8 FTE requirement to add Spanish to all elementary students beginning in kindergarten. The Committee members asked the administration to provide some information on expected outcomes and success. The administration will attempt

to obtain this information from local and like sized districts that offer foreign language at the elementary level.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 25, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn was made by Michelle Swardenski, seconded by Jean Maurice Boyer, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Jeff Spoehr, Recorder