

## Franklin City Schools: Curriculum Council

---

Meeting: May 5, 2008

**Those present:** Steve Buerschen, JoAnn Feltner, Dan Darragh, Sherry Terrill, Jim McFarland, David Gregory, Michelle Cash, Gloria Williams, Paula Ruppert, Robyn Donisi, Rachel Phillips, Dee Sellers, Meagan Engle, Doug Lantz, Tom Pecor, Peggy Darragh-Jeromos

**Council Membership:** Lisa Insenga is leaving the council as she is taking a job with another library system. Mrs. Feltner will send her a thank you note. Ms. Insenga's replacement on the council will be the new children's librarian; the replacement was unable to attend the meeting.

Mrs. Feltner thanked David Gregory for serving; he will leave the council due to retirement. She added that she hopes all members will stay on the council. Meetings will resume in September.

### **Music Department Recommendations:**

- A. Course of Study: A committee of music teachers and Mrs. Phillips worked on the Music Course of study. Franklin offers over and above what the state requires. The revised course of study is not much different from the current one; however, it is now aligned to state standards. Mr. Gregory moved that the council approve the course of study; Mrs. Feltner seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Textbooks. The Music Department was allotted \$45,000 for textbooks. Mr. Mosher (FHS Vocal) made recommendations for texts totaling \$10,860. Mrs. Phillips, formerly a music teacher, spoke highly of the texts. Peggy Darragh-Jeromos moved the council approve the texts; Mrs. Terrill seconded. Motion carried 13-1, with Mr. Gregory dissenting, he was concerned about the durability of softbound books.
- C. Course Recommendations:
  - a. Music Appreciation was suggested as an elective. The Council discussed how the course differed from music theory, whether this material would be part of all other music classes, whether classes can be rotated. Mr. Gregory explained some of the scheduling difficulties FHS students face due to more state core graduation requirements, which allow fewer electives and result in too few students to make certain classes viable. Mrs. Donisi mentioned the difficulty in scheduling band at the Middle School. As the council's role is to focus on curriculum, not staffing, Mr. Gregory moved that Music Appreciation be added to the course of study; Doug Lantz seconded; motion carried.
  - b. Steel Drum Band. The Music committee looked at a proposal for a Steel Drum band, which was raised as a possibility for students who might not be interested in other instruments. The committee liked it but identified several obstacles, including no current music teacher being qualified to teach the course, though all were willing to take the training. The committee recommended that it not be a course offering. Mrs. Williams moved to accept their recommendation; Mrs. Donisi seconded. Motion carried.

**Textbooks:**

- a. **Industrial Technology Textbooks:** Dr. Buerschen reviewed two texts to be used for Industrial Technology. Classroom sets will be purchased of two texts, for a total of \$3,245. All supplemental materials will be at no charge.
- b. **Advanced Biology Textbooks:** The course was recently approved by the Board of Education. A set of 60 hardbound books will be purchased for \$3,854.
- c. **Social Studies Texts:** Textbooks were approved for the entire revised course of course for Social Studies. These are both for required courses and several electives: \$220,443,67.
- d. **Total textbook expenditures:** \$505,000 had been appropriated and projected expenditures will be \$347,543.07. This total covers Social Studies, Music, Industrial Technology, Science, and \$70,000 for annual replacement of current texts due to wear and tear and changing enrollment.
- e. **Old textbooks** are sold to a publisher, given to students, or given to organizations.

Mr. Darragh recommended the council accept the textbook recommendations; Mr. Lantz seconded. Motion carried.

**K-6 Science Curriculum:** The Board had adopted a new course of study for science. Mr. Pecor explained that the new elementary report cards would have one line for both science and health, as they overlap highly in the elementary grades.

**Agenda items:** Two items were moved to the next meeting: school calendar and building configuration.

**Next Meeting:** September, date and time to be announced.