

Franklin City Schools: Curriculum Council Meeting
Sept. 26, 2007

In attendance: Doug Lantz, Jo Ann Feltner, Lisa Insenga, Dan Darragh, Gloria Williams, Sherry Terrill, Jim McFarland, Tom Pecor, Michelle Cash, Beth Callahan, Paula Ruppert, Dr. Steve Buerschen, Dee Sellers, Robyn Donisi, and Peggy Darragh-Jeromos

I and III. Group members introduced themselves and updated their contact information.

II. Dr. Buerschen reviewed the council's purpose. A copy of the purpose was e-mailed to all council members after the meeting.

We are one of three standing committees (the others are facilities and finance); to avoid confusion with the district's in-house curriculum committees, we are called a **council**.

IV. Dr. Buerschen reviewed and explained the district's 5-year curriculum revision cycle and shared a schedule of the work the district would do this year as part of that plan. For example, in-house committees will review K-12 Social Studies materials and state content standards for K-12 music.

The curriculum council reviewed its accomplishments from the previous school year and other academic accomplishments/issues/changes in the district:

- ❑ Last year, the group reviewed the new state CORE requirements. Mrs. Feltner will be on a panel at the Capital Conference in November concerning the CORE requirements.
- ❑ Franklin High School was one of 26 (out of 1400 nationwide) to earn a Pacesetter award under the High Schools That Work program.
- ❑ The district is finishing professional development on the Ruby Payne, "A Framework for Understanding Poverty" program.
- ❑ The district is among the 12% of Ohio districts that are meeting the Adequate Yearly Progress requirement of the No Child Left Behind Act.
- ❑ A number of professional development initiatives are underway, particularly for new technology such as the Smart Boards.

V. Bullying policy. Dr. Buerschen reviewed a draft of the district's bullying policy. The state requires districts to have a policy in place by Dec. 30. It covers activities on school property and school-sponsored activities.

Dr. Buerschen reviewed anti-bullying programs that the district has in place and reviewed the 10 items that the state requires be in the policy.

After the district has adopted the policy, the Ohio Department of Education is required to review the language.

Council members reviewed the draft and made several suggestions about language consistency. Dr. Buerschen asked that all members review it and let him know by Oct. 3 whether they are OK or have concerns. He will incorporate the feedback in a revised draft. The draft will go to the

Superintendent and then be reviewed by the Board at their Nov. work session. Dr. Buerschen will e-mail a new draft to council members.

VI. The council briefly reviewed an article about a community-wide literacy initiative that took place in Spartanburg, SC. In the interest of time, the topic will be moved to the next meeting.

Other Business: Mr. Lantz reiterated that the district is looking for a good use for the Laura Farrell building. The district has no plans to sell it. Groups (WCCC, WCESC, Head Start) have expressed interest in using it for various programs, but nothing is firm yet. Rumors that it will be used as a homeless shelter are absolutely false.

For the next meeting, Mr. Lantz asked council members to review a district study done several years ago about year-round school. Several area districts have buildings on a year-round schedule and they have a waiting list for them. Council members are asked to look over the report and consider whether it would be viable here. Mr. Lantz emphasized that if year-round school were ever implemented, it would be voluntary.

Council members are welcome to attend a district in-service on Oct. 19 (8 to 11 a.m., FHS cafeteria). The workshop continues the Ruby Payne material.

Mrs. Feltner asked Dr. Buerschen to share information about the curriculum mapping process. He e-mailed this information, as well as the district's 2007-2008 staff development schedule to council members.

VIII - X: The next meeting will be November 7 at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Darragh-Jeromos
Recorder