

SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

CURRICULUM/TECHNOLOGY MEETING

Curriculum & Technology Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 3, 2015 6:30 in D.O. Conference Room

Attendees: Dawn Heine (chair), Will Cromley; Kelly Spletzer; Tom DiBello; Todd Wolf; Clinton Jackson; Dr. Goodin; Dr. Floyd; Mrs. Bast; Mr. Reynolds; Mrs. Long

Curriculum/Technology Modernized Learning

Four scheduled deployment meetings scheduled. These meetings require parents and students to attend. Sign off from parents and students is obtained at the meeting and expectations are reviewed. Devices are distributed at the meeting in accordance with the class the student is taking. Meetings have been scheduled at various times to provide as many opportunities as possible for parents. In the event that someone cannot attend a meeting alternate arrangements will be made. The two of 4 meetings took place prior to this meeting.

Meeting objectives:

- 10 minute presentation to attendees how we got here
- Logistics parent & student responsibilities
- Overview of how this pilot is changing the instructional program in these classes

Parent feedback:

Parents seem more excited than the students. "I wish we would have done this 9 years ago" was one quote from the meetings. Parents are also anxious to see what happens as a result of this pilot project.

Kudos to Steve and his team for preparing and learning 4 different devices in a short period of time. Steve mentioned that his team has developed a strategy for managing the device specific items in the department.

Continuing to meet with teachers weekly to discuss how technology is being used in the class (i.e. exit tickets; expectations for home usage). Teachers are sharing ideas on how to help students get acquainted with new programs by utilizing games and discussions

Technology SMART Classroom

80 of 110 rooms completed. Following the install a brief how to session is reviewed with the teachers.

The question how to start the process sooner for next year was discussed. If the budget is approved, can the process start earlier? After some discussion and reassurance that this budget line item would NOT be removed from the budget Steve agreed that he could be ready to go once the budget is approved.

Curriculum

Text Dependent Questions Video

A portion of a video that was produced by SFASD staring one of our Coaches was viewed. This video was made to assist teachers with creating and utilizing of text dependent questions. This is one way our coaches can affect teachers it also describes how this is different for students. It encourages small group collaboration and larger discussion to bring the lesson to completion.

Materials & Resources

Sociology – This was brought to CIA by the teacher. Current books are from 2004 which is old for this type of course. Census data is out of date and the book does not align properly with the curriculum. It is currently further down on the schedule for replacement but we may need to reevaluate when this is completed. This is currently not in the 2015-16 CIA budget.

Concern from the committee is that we don't want to make fluid changes to the review cycle based on requests since we know many requests/needs exist. This need exists based on history of the department prior to Dr. Floyd and the cuts to the Curriculum budget, specifically related to books.

AP US History – The course is up for review by College Board. The current curriculum does not align with the AP test creating a gap. Therefore the book that is being utilized is will not fit the needs when the course within SFASD is realigned to College Board standards. This book purchase is not currently in the 2015-16 CIA budget.

Discussion regarding books and utilization in the classroom was discussed. Are we making purchases just to make them or are they being utilized in the class? More often than not, the textbook purchases are transitioning to the Hybrid model where there is a class set purchased and the on-line book is for student home use (with a few exceptions).

CIA will need to review these two book needs and determine if they should be added to the budget for 2015-16 or kept in current review cycle.