

SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Curriculum & Technology COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 6, 2019
6:30 p.m. in the DO Front Conference Room

Attendees – Mrs. Heine, Mrs. Fazzini, Dr. Dressler, Mr. Catalano, Dr. Murray, Mrs. Gardy, Dr. Nugent, Mrs. Earle

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

Spring-Ford Area School District strives to be educationally relevant, focused on achievement and growth, and have a priority on people so that students are fully prepared to positively contribute to their society.

CALL TO ORDER – By Mrs. Heine at 6:33PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – None

II. MINUTES – October Minutes were accepted

III. GOOD NEWS

- A. National Band Association Program of Excellence Blue Ribbon Award
- B. Spring-Ford Learning Innovations
- C. Spring-Ford School District expressed their sincere appreciation to Mr. Dressler and Mrs. Heine for their leadership on the Curriculum and Technology committee.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Curriculum

- 1. Update on Modernizing Learning provided by Dr. Murray & Mr. Catalano
There has been very positive feedback regarding the roll out of devices. The district administration has met twice, with a third meeting coming up in November. Professional development has been focused on instructional competencies as well as technology competencies so that technology is purposefully and intentionally used. Planning for the next years rollout is in the works.
- 2. New Course Proposals provided by Dr. Nugent and Dr. Murray
 - a. Innovation Studio/Media/Communication Minor – cost of \$480 for 12 hours for curriculum writing
 - b. AP Microeconomics – Cost of \$1,440 36 hours curriculum development and \$10,000 for initial text books total cost of 11,440
 - c. There will also be a title and description change for a course from Jewelry Major to Ceramics and Jewelry Major. This was an information item as board approval isn't needed for this item.The committee agreed to move the two new courses forward for board approval.
- 3. Update on Curriculum Reviews
 - a. The Literacy, Social Studies and Library updates shared by Mrs. Gardy is attached to the minutes.

- b. Dr. Murray shared the Math, Science and Music updates that was prepared by Mrs. Rochlin. The update is attached to the minutes.
- c. Dr. Murray shared Innovations with Spring-Ford Learning document which is attached to the minutes.
- d. Thanks to our Instructional Coaches Spring-Ford has Professional Development happening every day! Our coaching staff are being welcomed into the classrooms and helping to support our teachers. This is a point of pride for the coaches, the Curriculum team and the Curriculum and Technology Committee.

These updates have been well received and the department was encouraged to continue them in the future.

4. Update on AP Capstone Resources and Databases

An update was provided to the committee regarding the resources available to students for research. A trial database was found and offered to the class and will be monitored for effectiveness. The research our students will conduct each year will be dynamic therefore Mrs. Heine suggested keeping an eye on the various types of research being done each year to ensure that the databases will meet the needs of the students each year.

B. Technology:

1. Technology Staffing Changes

Mr. Catalano shared that he will have someone retiring next year. In preparation for that he has recommended a transition plan to include the addition of a Junior Network Systems Administrator. This position would help to seamlessly transition functions and knowledge over the next 18 months. The committee agreed this was a good plan and agreed to move it to the board agenda for approval.

2. Security Initiatives Update

Mr. Catalano provided a technology security overview for Today, Tomorrow and The Future with the committee. There are two potential security enhancement initiatives that are being recommended. Mr. Catalano was asked to provide detailed information for the Board Memo so it could be discussed.

Post meeting update: These initiatives will be a top priority for the new year since the contracts for the initiatives were delayed and therefore not able to be reviewed by the Solicitor prior to the November meeting.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

VI. ACTIONABLE ITEMS – Two new courses move to agenda for approval.

VII. NEEDS FOR NEXT MEETING

VIII. BOARD COMMENT – Mrs. Heine thanked the committee for the time and effort they have provided during the time she served and led the committee. Dr. Dressler also thanked the committee members for their efforts while he was on the committee.

IX. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

X. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 8:15

LITERACY, SOCIAL STUDIES, & LIBRARY UPDATES

NOVEMBER 2019



SPOTLIGHT:

K-6 Family Literacy and Math night was held on November 4, 2019 at Upper Providence Elementary School. "Fall into Fun with R.A.M.S"

We had a tremendous turnout. Families enjoyed a variety of stations and activities that our teachers and instructional coaches led. We collected 94 canned goods and had raffle baskets that raised \$88 for Spring-Ford Outreach Project.



SPOTLIGHT:

Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI) Resources

Reading Specialists, ISTs, and K-2 Special Education Teachers received training on the Leveled Literacy Intervention resource on October 22nd and October 23rd. This is an intervention resource that will support students in grades K-2 with developing comprehension and other literacy skills.



SPRING-FORD
LEARNING

**#SFLEARNS #SFLITERACY
#SFEARNANDLEARN**

OTHER NEWS:

K-5 ,SOCIAL STUDIES

Curriculum review is scheduled for the 2019-2020 school year!

Teachers started preparing for this at the end of last school year and we will be completing a resource review later this month.

EARN & LEARN OPPORTUNITIES

Afterschool Act 48 learning has been taking place.

Topics have included Google Classroom, Google Docs, Google Slides, Make Writing, Learning A-Z, & NWEA/MAP Reporting.



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES CONTINUE AT K-8 BUILDINGS!

Real-time coaching and C&I support is scheduled for the 2019-2020 school year.

In conjunction with building principals, the C&I team will continue to support teachers by leading PLC (Professional Learning Communities) in K-8 buildings. Our focus will be to improve instructional practices related to early literacy (grades K-2) and Text Dependent Analysis (grades 3-8).

QUESTIONS?

Catie Gardy

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MATH , SCIENCE

+

MUSIC UPDATES NOVEMBER 2019



Rowdy Ram at Spring-Ford Math and Literacy Night!

SPOTLIGHT:

Chief Science Officers (CSOs) Present at RES!

The CSOs from Spring-Ford High School worked with RES 4th graders on October 25th and presented a hands-on "STEM-onstration." Students engaged with our CSOs to create "blobs in a bottle" and form hypotheses.



SPOTLIGHT:

Ram QUEST Teachers Attend PaSmart Conference!

Ram Quest Teachers from UPE, RES, LIM, SC and the Intermediate School attended the PaSmart Conference at PaTTAN East on October 7th. Teachers engaged with educators and administrators from surrounding districts to plan for greater integration of Computer Science into the elementary/intermediate



SPRING-FORD LEARNING

#SFMATHRAMS #SFLEARNS

OTHER NEWS:

K-12 MUSIC

Curriculum Work Update

Teachers began their work with Mrs. Rochlin on October 14th to revise and refresh their K-12 curriculum. The teachers continue to work diligently to improve the musical experience for our Spring-Ford students!

BOLD SCHOOL!

Instructional Coaches Attend Professional Learning at the MCIU

Our instructional coaches, alongside supervisors and principals, attended a full day of professional learning at the MCIU. Weston Kieschnick presented instructional best-practices and practical strategies for supporting teachers with technology.



QUESTIONS?

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INNOVATIONS WITH SPRING-FORD LEARNING

#SFLEARNS



NOVEMBER 2019

SPOTLIGHT: Spring-Ford Learning

Spring-Ford Learning is off to a productive start after being positively embraced by teaching staff throughout various departments. Teachers are collaborating and sharing targeted checks and technology. Administrators have recognized a concerted effort to introduce DI strategies into classroom learning experiences.

Administrator Training

On October 9th, Spring-Ford Administrators participated in a professional development session with Pete Grande and TLS. The session kicked off with an overview of Spring-Ford Learning, by Dr. Kelly Murray. Participants had the opportunity to work collaboratively to dive deeper into the 4 pillars of Spring-Ford Learning: Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Management. In addition, participants discussed the Spring-Ford Learning Framework for Instruction (A.R.E). During this process, administrators discussed how they can support instruction which is Assessment Driven, Responsive to needs and Engaging.



SPRING-FORD
LEARNING

SPOTLIGHT: The Use of Technology to Enhance Curriculum and Instruction

- * The elementary schools used data collected from Fountas, Pinnell, Aimsweb Plus (new assessments), and NWEA MAP to group students for targeted instruction in areas of greatest need.
- * At the elementary level, the implementation of the Clever system, along with adding additional mobile devices, have increased teachers' ability to enhance instruction and engagement.
- * During the recent In-Service Day, the middle school staff participated in activities to enhance their tech competencies, including Freckle, Google, ST Math, Flip Grid, Quizzes, among others. Staff were introduced to new tech tools in order to gather data to improve instruction. With the introduction of the new technology, and the addition of hardware, teachers are becoming proficient in differentiation and grouping students, thus making them better able to create lessons to meet student

OTHER NEWS:

INSTRUCTIONAL COACH Nicole Peart



We are excited to welcome Instructional Coach Nicole Peart to the Curriculum Department as the K-6 Modernizing Learn-

ing coach. Before coming to Spring-Ford, Ms. Peart was a classroom teacher for the last 12 years at Upper Perkiomen School District. She has taught first, second, third, and fifth grades. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from West Chester University and her Master's Degree in Education with a Reading Specialist Certification from Kutztown University.

TOPIC Elementary Math Highlights

- * Everyday Math - refresh with new materials, games and manipulatives being used to specialize instruction.
- * ST Math - implemented in grades 1-4 to help with guided math initiative. The students are enjoying how the program presents math concepts.



QUESTIONS? Kelly Murray, Ed.D

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Follow me on Twitter

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IN CASE YOU MISSED US ON TWITTER... #SFLearns



Wendy Taylor @TaylorLitCoach · Oct 17

Spring Ford teachers experience "make writing" and discover fun ways to motivate reluctant writers! [#SFLearns](#)[#makewriting](#)[#intentionoreo](#)



Jessica Saloky @JSaloky · Oct 3

Monsieur Cope led his French 2 students on a screencast-o-matic journey today helping them to record videos of the rooms and items in their homes. The new and improved 9th grade media center allowed students to record in a variety of locations. [#SFLearns](#) [#LevelingUpLearning](#)



SFcoachMegan @SFcoachMegan · Oct 14

8th grade reading teachers collaborating to create formative assessment to drive their instruction. [#SFLearns](#)



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