

## SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Curriculum & Technology COMMITTEE MEETING Minutes

On Wednesday, January 9, 2019 the Curriculum & Technology Committee meeting was held in the DO conference room. The following people were in attendance: Mrs. Heine, Mrs. Fazzini, Dr. Dressler, Mrs. Bast, Mr. Catalano, Mrs. Gardy, Mrs. Rochlin, Dr. Nugent, Dr. Colyer, Dr. Weidenbaugh, Ms. Farischon, Mrs. Long, Mr. Cromley, Ms. 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** – 6:33pm Mrs. Dawn Heine

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – No announcements

**I. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY** – No comments

**II. MINUTES** – None to review

**III. GOOD NEWS- Reflection on Accomplishments:**

1. Ram Quest 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Students Grant written to expand to two teachers in 5/6- double the amount of classes for our 5/6 students. \* Districts contact us to hear about and emulate this program (Hatboro Horsham)
2. Modernizing Learning- ALL 9<sup>th</sup> grade staff will have the first round of training to maximize engagement and increase differentiation. Coaching support has been critical to the success of ML in 9<sup>th</sup> grade this year and 10-12 Cohorts. \*Districts visit to see this in action and emulate this program (Radnor)
3. Assessment program and calendar- with procedures and specifications for use of data. Coaching support to analyze results and provide strategies and resources in areas of struggle AND to assist each student, excellent results
4. Spring-Ford Learning Model- Number talks, guided math, guided reading, Rtii review; sustained professional learning with coaching follow up in classrooms
5. Curriculum review and alignment, Two successful Federal Programs audits, Successful McKinney Vento Audit, Pre K Readiness
6. Act 339 (Used as example at MCIU)
7. We are a model district: Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RFp0S1Al230>
8. Student email shared from Drexel University- thanking Spring-Ford for preparation
9. Exeter Township contacted us to meet and discuss how Spring-Ford has been achieving such high scores
10. Pine-Richland (Pittsburgh) contacted us as an exemplary school to see what we are doing in Social Studies and instructionally to achieve such high scores and to discuss our Social Studies programs.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**Curriculum:**

1. English Department information – Department Chair Jen Farischon shared a power point of information with the committee. Power point can be shared.

2. Act 1095 (Keystone) Update – Dr. Nugent along with Dr. Weidenbaugh and Dr. Colyer presented information on the changes that Act 1095 has for our district. Students must all take the Keystone Exams, but for those who are not proficient we can longer MANDATE remediation. This, and the shift of focus to College and Career Readiness, has meant that the state is more focused on wholistic measures and less focused on test results. We wanted to keep the board apprised of the changes and let you know we are engaged in discussion about how to handle these changes and still hold our expectations high. We will come back to this committee with more information as we get more information from PDE and come up with a plan we are comfortable with for Spring-Ford.
3. Update Aimsweb Assessment System – Mrs. Bast informed the committee of the need for the Aimsweb to be updated; the program we currently use will not be offered next year. We will be upgrading to Aimsweb Plus. The cost for the first year is similar, though we do expect an increase in upcoming years. Teachers will need to be trained on the new system. We have had discussions with administrators to update our assessment plan and communicate how all of the pieces fit together and how to analyze the data in real time.
4. Agenda item – Approval of purchase of new Accounting Resources and Financial Calculators – Cost is about \$2500, received permission to put this on the agenda.
5. Agenda Item – Approval of new 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Resources- Cost is about \$50,000, received permission to put this on the agenda.
6. New supplemental resource purchase for AP History will be ordered this month – Cost is about \$1500 to provide these resources aligned with changes to the AP course- extra practice for students.
7. Updates
  - A. ELA – Mrs. Gardy discussed the following ELA updates:
    - Professional Learning Network meetings for grades 1-8 continue. Teams are meeting with Mrs. Gardy monthly.
    - English teachers in grades 9-12 are participating in a book study. The book is discussed at the monthly department meetings.
    - MAP testing in grades 3-8 is underway and going well. Teachers will review reports and will discuss during upcoming data meetings.
    - Literacy night, Come to Camp, Read S'more! – March 26<sup>th</sup> – lots of public information soon. Next year we will do a combined Math & Literacy Night
  - B. Math – Mrs. Rochlin discussed the following Math updates:
    - Grant applications for Ram Quest – Mrs. Rochlin applied for a \$35,000 grant to enhance the Ram Quest program.
    - K-4 Resource review for math – formal presentation/update will be given in February with presentation of chosen resources in March.
    - PD Series- Earn and Learn to complement Spring-Ford Learning. Good opportunity for Act 48 and to provide excellent professional learning.
    - Ursinus – Science in Motion is up and running. We are working with them to see how to utilize this program.

**V. Technology** – Mr. Catalano provided the following technology updates:

1. Clever – Login assistance for K-6 – Update –prTwo hybrid schools use a single sign on program, but this is going away. We need to replace this single sign on system. Visited other schools and found it took a long time for students to log on to the system. Found “Clever” which works with a simple QR picture (could be on card, could be on paper) – use camera to log in. IT IS FREE. Roll out first day next year.

2. Modernizing Learning Machines for Board members at table to replace old tablets – Quick Demo of new tablets. The School Board will use the ML machines – same as the one the students use in the HS. We are looking at Chromebooks for ML, as a better fit and more cost effective.
3. Professional Development for Smart Products progress- working closely with coaches, specifically Jessica Saloky to provide some training for teachers on Products.
4. Phone systems are still being evaluated – The choice to this committee in an upcoming meeting.

**VI. Curriculum & Technology:**

1. Training for Modernizing Learning grades 9-12 continues, both with Cohort V and the full 9<sup>th</sup> grade staff. The 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers will continue to receive training this year with similar concepts; further implementing the Spring-Ford Learning Model.
2. Hybrid classrooms are up and running!

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS – None**

**VII. ACTIONABLE ITEMS**

1. Accounting resources,
2. New AP History resources,
3. New 10<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies resources.

**VIII. NEEDS FOR NEXT MEETING:** Next meeting February 5, 2019, 6:30PM DO Conference Room

**IX. BOARD COMMENT –** Question about Guided Math/CPM – Board member read an email from a concerned parent who indicated that she is hearing from many people about the concerns in math classes. Conversation ensued, and we will consider how to better communicate with students, parents, and teachers. We will keep this committee updated on progress, and we hope all will continue to share feedback. Mrs. Rochlin shared that she was recently in a meeting where she heard concerns from students; she was able to immediately bring this feedback to the CPM teachers. Some new ideas and strategies have been shared and will continue to be shared to increase teacher knowledge and comfort, as well as student knowledge and ability to function in new instructional model.

**XI. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD- None**

**XII. ADJOURNMENT - 8:28 PM, Mrs. Dawn Heine**

# English Department

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Presentation to the Curriculum and Technology Board Committee

January 9, 2019 by

Jennifer M. Farischon, Teacher and Chairperson



# English Department... by the numbers

- **34 teachers**, grades 9-12, including special education ELA
- **12** Major class options; **8** Elective options
- **2018 Literature Keystone Performance**
  - **92.4% Proficient or Advanced** (SFHS)
  - 63.3% Statewide Average
  - 81.1% Statewide Goal for 2030

Performance Level Summary by Content Area

| Test Groups                  | Total Tested | Below Basic |         | Basic  |         | Proficient |         | Advanced |         |
|------------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------|--------|---------|------------|---------|----------|---------|
|                              |              | Number      | Percent | Number | Percent | Number     | Percent | Number   | Percent |
| District: All Testers        | 704          | 16          | 2.3     | 108    | 15.3    | 424        | 60.2    | 156      | 22.2    |
| State: All Testers           | 126,997      | 16,859      | 13.3    | 36,385 | 28.7    | 59,447     | 46.8    | 14,306   | 11.3    |
| District: First-Time Testers | 643          | 14          | 2.2     | 65     | 10.1    | 408        | 63.5    | 156      | 24.3    |
| State: First-Time Testers    | 107,675      | 12,818      | 11.9    | 24,523 | 22.8    | 56,068     | 52.1    | 14,266   | 13.2    |
| District: Retesters          | 61           | 2           | 3.3     | 43     | 70.5    | 16         | 26.2    | 0        | 0.0     |
| State: Retesters             | 19,322       | 4,041       | 20.9    | 11,862 | 61.4    | 3,379      | 17.5    | 40       | 0.2     |

<sup>1</sup> If a percentage is not displayed within the bar graph, consult the table for the actual percentage.  
Summaries are based on students' highest scores to date.  
Please note that the percentages in the tables may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

## English Classes Offered for 2018-2019, Grades 9-12

| ENGLISH COURSES |                                 |       |   |    |   |   |   |   |        |    |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------|---|----|---|---|---|---|--------|----|
| N020            | English 9: Honors               | Major | 6 | 1  | X |   |   |   | ☉☉♦∞   | 16 |
| N021            | English 9: Academic             | Major | 6 | 1  | X |   |   |   | ☉☉     | 17 |
| N040            | Public Speaking and Debate      | Minor | 3 | .5 | X |   |   |   | ☉      | 17 |
| N934            | Media Exploration               | Minor | 3 | .5 | X |   |   |   |        | 17 |
| 023             | English 10: World Lit Honors    | Major | 6 | 1  |   | X |   |   | ☉☉♦∞ ✓ | 25 |
| 024             | English 10: World Lit           | Major | 6 | 1  |   | X |   |   | ☉☉     | 25 |
| 026A            | English Language Comp: AP       | Major | 6 | 1  |   |   | X | X | ☉☉∅∞ ✓ | 26 |
| 026             | English II: American Lit Honors | Major | 6 | 1  |   |   | X |   | ☉☉♦∞ ✓ | 25 |
| 027             | English II: American Lit        | Major | 6 | 1  |   |   | X |   | ☉☉     | 26 |
| 029             | English Lit Comp: AP            | Major | 6 | 1  |   |   | X | X | ☉☉∅∞ ✓ | 26 |
| 030             | English 12: British Lit Honors  | Major | 6 | 1  |   |   |   | X | ☉☉♦∞ ✓ | 26 |
| 031             | English 12: British Lit         | Major | 6 | 1  |   |   |   | X | ☉☉     | 26 |
| 033             | AP Seminar                      | Major | 6 | 1  |   | X | X |   | ☉☉∅∞ ✓ | 26 |
| 034             | AP Research                     | Major | 6 | 1  |   |   | X | X | ☉☉∅∞ ✓ | 26 |
| 040             | Public Speaking and Debate      | Minor | 3 | .5 |   | X | X | X | ☉      | 27 |
| 041             | Technical Writing               | Minor | 3 | .5 |   | X | X | X |        | 27 |
| 045             | Acting Theories                 | Minor | 3 | .5 |   | X | X | X |        | 27 |
| 055             | Journalism                      | Minor | 3 | .5 |   | X | X | X | ☉      | 27 |
| 057             | Fiction Writing                 | Minor | 3 | .5 |   | X | X | X | ☉      | 27 |
| 058             | Poetry                          | Minor | 3 | .5 |   | X | X | X | ☉      | 27 |
| 063             | Young Adult Literature          | Minor | 3 | .5 |   | X | X | X |        | 27 |



# Accelerated Course Offerings

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- Advanced Placement English Language and Composition (Enrollment 106)
- Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition (Enrollment 39)
- Advanced Placement CAPSTONE
  - Seminar (Enrollment 17)
  - Research (Enrollment 29)
- Dual Enrollment Speech and Communication (Enrollment 135)

# Advanced Placement English Scores (2018)

## Spring-Ford Senior High School (394300) - English Language and Composition, All Students

| Section Summary |    |    |    |    |   |                | Subject Summary |                |               |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|---|----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Score           | 5  | 4  | 3  | 2  | 1 | Total Students | Average Score   | Total Students | Average Score |
| Total Students  | 15 | 22 | 23 | 14 | 1 | 75             | 3.480           | 75             | 3.480         |

## Spring-Ford Senior High School (394300) - Seminar, All Students

| Section Summary |   |    |    |   |   |                | Subject Summary |                |               |
|-----------------|---|----|----|---|---|----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Score           | 5 | 4  | 3  | 2 | 1 | Total Students | Average Score   | Total Students | Average Score |
| Total Students  | 6 | 13 | 26 | 1 | 0 | 46             | 3.522           | 46             | 3.522         |

English Literature and Composition

5

15

17

7

44



# Extra- and Co-Curricular Opportunities

- Award-winning *Ramoirs* literary magazine
- Student submissions of poetry, short fiction, essays, and original artwork are curated and published by students, for students

## ABOVE AVERAGE

Spring-Ford Senior High School, 350 South Louis Rd., Royersford, PA 19468

### ***Ramoirs***

Faculty Advisor: Laura Tollefson

Student Editors: Emma Coath, Samantha Pollock, Sonal Tyagi, Zak Musetti, Riya Patel

**NCTE**

**Program To Recognize  
Excellence in Student Literary Magazines**

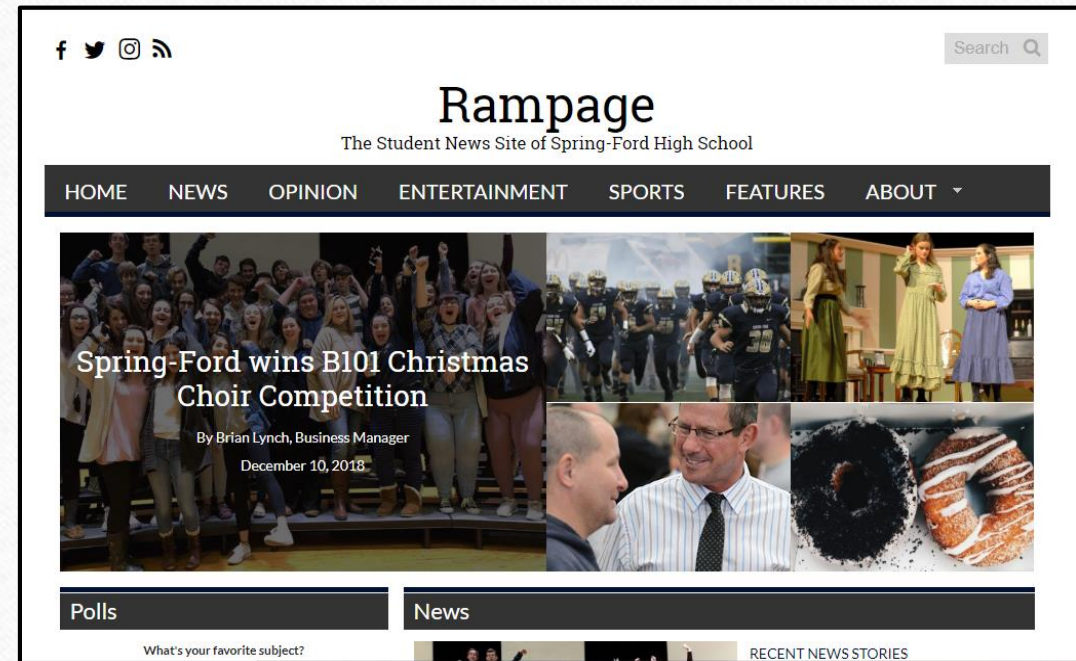
2016 PRESLM Ranked Magazines

PENNSYLVANIA



# Extra- and Co-Curricular Opportunities

- ***Rampage*** has taken a big step this year with the launching of [sframpage.org](http://sframpage.org). The website facilitates students' immersion in a real-world newsroom environment.
- Students taking Journalism gain practical experience pitching, writing, editing, and producing copy (print and digital) while honing speaking and listening skills through interviews and broadcasts.





# Extra- and Co-Curricular Opportunities

- Students enrolled in Acting (Theories or Mechanics- alternating years) and members of Drama Club showcase their talents onstage.
- Members of Debate Club hone public speaking skills and gain experience in argumentation while debating current events and issues.

## 'Little Women' takes stage

The focus is on family in the fall production



Staff Photo

Olivia Hungate (from left), as Beth, Erica Love, as Meg, and Lindsey Edwards, as Amy, run through dialogue.