

Regional School District 13
Student Achievement Committee
December 2, 2015

Committee members present: Victor Friedrich, Kerrie Flanagan, Merrill Adams, Anthony Onofreo, Raffaella Fronc

Administration present: Kathryn Veronesi, Linda Berry

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Approval of Agenda: On a motion by Dr. Onofreo and seconded by Dr. Friedrich, the agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Dr. Onofreo and seconded by Mrs. Flanagan, the November 4, 2015 minutes were approved.

Use of Google Classroom: Dr. Berry introduced each member of the committee to the Google Classroom format with the use of Chromebooks. Each member of the committee was able to use a Chromebook to access Dr. Berry's presentation in a Google Classroom created so the committee could see the format. Dr. Berry reviewed the various ways teachers and students are using Chromebooks and how Google Classroom is a way for multiple students to have access and contribute to the same document. Students can get feedback from their teachers in "real time" and can submit work to their teachers electronically. Questions were asked regarding teachers' need to be available "24/7". Teachers can access students' work whenever they want and do not have to look at it as soon as it is sent.

Update on new science and social studies state standards: Dr. Berry shared two presentations in the Google Classroom about the requirements for implementation of the new Science and Social Studies standards and available Professional Development opportunities. The most significant instructional change is the focus on inquiry. Mrs. Fronc suggested that Professional Development and Curriculum revision plans wait until the state gives more definitive information to districts. Dr. Friedrich asked about teachers' comfort level with teaching new materials when they were not yet confident about their own skills. Discussion followed about the importance of teacher leadership to support teachers' learning.

STEM Update: Dr. Veronesi updated the committee on the initial steps of the development of STEM programming at the middle school. She and Mr. Sadinsky are working with Paxton-Patterson to explore various modules that are used to structure the program. Mr. Sadinsky is examining scheduling options for next year to determine what program implementation will look like. Module topics include: Alternative Energy, Computer Graphics & Animation, Digital Manufacturing, Electricity & electronics, Energy & Power, Environment & Ecology, Forensic Science, Health & Fitness, Robotics, and Structural Engineering.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Adjournment: On a motion to adjourn from Dr. Onofreo and seconded by Mrs. Flanagan, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.