



PCCS Board of Directors / Academic Excellence Committee

APPROVED MINUTES

Monday, March 5, 2018 7:00 PM
Vicky Ranney Environmental Library
Upper Wright Schoolhouse
1571 Jones Point Road
Grayslake, IL 60030

Call to Order

7:00 pm

Nick Kotzamanis

Members Attending

Nick Kotzamanis, Committee Chair
Ed Jamison, Secretary
Nell Anen
Devon Mann

Members Not in Attendance:

Abe Janis
Bob Bolin

Staff Attending

Geoff Deigan, Executive Director
Tony Zamiar, Dean of Students

Public Attending

Morgan Mann
Jeff Hartzler
Sue and John Hoyne
Sue Ross

Discussion Agenda

1. Public Discussion Q&A Regarding 6-8 Math Program

Mr. Deigan and Mr. Zamiar begin by sharing how the changes to the math program came about. There has been a lot of feedback on the structure of the program and how the changes were introduced. The rollout came as a surprise to some of the community, and that was unintentional.

Orange math, which is accelerated math, had increased to 25 students, broken into 3 groups. Due to upward movement of 6 additional students, the new total of 31 was too much to manage in the available space, so the decision was made to divide the group into 21 and 10. The group of 10 was the 6th grade students, which were moved to meet in the library space and taught by Mrs. Ottaviani.

Last school year, the math classes were divided into 6 groups. This year the striation in skill level requires 9 groups, which required a different distribution of students and staff to lead them. Student are performing well in advanced topics, moving beyond Algebra topics into Geometry. Further expansion in the future is limited by space. If the school can secure additional space, additional options will be explored.

2. Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and PCCS Integrated Curriculum

Mr. Deigan and Mr. Zamiar explain the different standards emerge and lesson plans are continually adjusted to match the current standards. We are currently tracking at 86% mastery of Science standards. Teachers are actively reviewed by the administration to ensure standards are followed. There is a team focus on integrating the environment into the curriculum as well. Mr. Zamiar goes on to share that NGSS results are delivered on a delayed schedule. We got the results from two years just before this committee meeting. We do assessments internally that we use to monitor the effectiveness of our efforts real time, and use the standards test results when they come in later to reinforce the internal measures.

3. House Bill 2461: Compliance update with gifted/advanced data reporting

Mr. Deigan states that this bill doesn't apply to charter schools. The Accelerated Placement Act also doesn't apply, but we may choose to comply so that if we are ever required to comply we'll have all the necessary data and can immediately be in compliance.

4. Review Minutes from Previous Committee Meetings

No minutes to review

Public Comment - None

New Business

Adjourn

There being no further business before the committee, Nell Anen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ed Jamison

On a voice call – “all ayes.” MOTION CARRIED at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Jamison
Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ed Jamison", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

March 5, 2018

A copy of the board documents for this meeting is available for viewing on the school web site.