

# THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST SCHOOL DISTRICT 67

Title: Education Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 19, 2015

Time: 8:15-10:40 a.m.

Location: West Campus, Seminar A

Participants: Beth Clemmensen, Lauren Fagel, Lesley Fisher, Jeff Folker, Laureen Grieve, Sridhar Krishnaswamy,

Administration present: Tom Cardamone, Renee Devore, Susan Milsk, Mike Simeck

Staff Present: N/A

Guest(s): Mike Borkowski

Approval of Minutes: Beth Clemmensen, Laureen Grieve

## **DISCUSSIONS/PRESENTATIONS:**

### **Elementary World Language Program Revisions**

- Lauren explained that much communication has taken place re rationale for revision/review of current programming/potential options moving forward due to declining enrollment and desires of parent/student population.
- still in vetting process (via Ed Committee, CCC, WL Committee, all WL teachers)

District's belief statements include (additional points included in document presented to BOE Feb. 23):

- commitment to maintaining instruction to students at an early age
- access to ALL children
- focused on developing language proficiency
- instruction should be differentiated
- spoken language
- cultural awareness and functional language skills

Goals of program include (additional points included in document referenced above):

- develop increased language proficiency in interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational communication

Current enrollment:

-French numbers are lowest, Spanish are highest.

Current program:

-Latin Connections for all beginning grade 2

-exploratory (FLEX) of all 4 languages (SP, FR, Latin and Mandarin) for all students in grade 3

-selection and study of 1 language in grade 4 (FLES)

Options of future programming were presented to the group:

-common themes and discussion revolved around choice, proficiency, lack of qualified Latin instructors, possibility of Inspiration Block branching out to other schools in future.

Brainstorming shared throughout group:

-offer 2 languages in 2nd grade

-repackage Latin as Middle School word study

-grade1 start to WL (change of LASIC-earlier is better)

-quality teaching

-setting limits on choice may be difficult change for community

-transition slowly and thoughtfully into offering fewer languages

-Latin not sound for goal of interpersonal communication?

-expand Inspiration Block model throughout District (Language Immersion option)

-all students should be encouraged to take WL, whether they receive Special Services or not

Final thought:

Perhaps pause on recommendation of new WL program as we are halfway through first year of 2 year pilot at CH. If the rest of the District commits to following Inspiration Block soon, language program should be revamped at that time.

## **DPM Schedule Revisions**

-Tom Cardamone and Renee Devore (DPM E and W principals) presented a proposed new, cohesive schedule for DPM 6-8 (grade 5 will be slightly different, encouraging a transition year between elementary and middle school).

Rationale for revision:

Tom and Renee referenced 7 attributes they are keeping top of mind as they revise the schedule

-4 grade level building with 3 different bell schedules make it distracting, difficult for teachers to collaborate, BOC students have limited Related Arts exposure

-5/6 Core classes longer than specials-7/8 are all the same amount of time

- want to provide more opportunities for student enrichment and exploration
- will unify the building
- current inequity of teaching time/p.d.time
  
- teachers are teaching multiple subjects that they may or may not be passionate about

#### Proposed schedule:

- has team teaching in place for SCI and MA, LA and SS
- CORE classes more time than specials (53 min/subject)-current is 47 min.
- Wellness/Language/BOC/RA 40 min.
- BOC students attend RA 2 days/wk and BOC 3
- 3 days/wk of HR, 2 for Extended Learning Opportunities (in pilot now) (33 min.)-intervention time here
- Lunch/recess remains same
- professional development time is embedded into the day

#### Moving forward:

Parent coffees and CCC

#### Discussion:

- encourage BOC students to more fully participate in RA
- valuable instruction

### **PARCC Update**

- much discussion in our state and others
- estimated time on task is less than what we have allowed
- test prep is skill related
- Mike Simeck has explored opting out, but...
- since we accept state and federal funding, and want to be recognized (due to NCLB, esp at HS level) in order to participate in athletics we must administer the test.
- split between March and May
- computer test
- high level questions

### **Public participation:**

Mike Borkowski offered suggestions re WL implementation and commented on revised DPM schedule

### **Motion to adjourn:**

### **Next meeting:**

Tues., April 14, 8:15 am West Campus