Meeting Minutes

Board Present: Jennifer Peltz, Marilyn Franklin, Laurel Bear,

Present at Meeting: Greg DePue, Dr. Rick Monroe, John Reiels, John Rhude

I. Call the Meeting to Order
Chair Jennifer Peltz called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. School Board Member Roll Call
Recording Secretary Ferne Hecker called the School Board member attendance roll call, with chair Mrs. Jennifer Peltz and Mrs. Marilyn Franklin, member being present. Board member Laurel Bear was also present.

III. Recommend Approval of Agenda
Motion by Mrs. Franklin, seconded by Mrs. Peltz, to approve the agenda as written. Franklin, Peltz “Aye.” “No” none. Motion passed 2-0.

IV. Recommend approval of the Minutes of the following:
Motion by Mrs. Franklin, seconded by Mrs. Peltz to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2009 Special Curriculum Committee meeting and September 9, 2009 Curriculum Committee meeting, as written. Motion passed 2-0.

V. Discussion and possible action regarding overnight travel for the AP Environmental field trip to Stevens Point
Mr. Rhude was present at the Curriculum Committee meeting to discuss the overnight trip to Stevens Point for AP Environmental students from after school on Tuesday, Nov 17th through Wednesday, Nov 18th. This is the high school conference on the environment. Mr. Rhude distributed information regarding the conference; he has taken students in the past to this event. This year’s theme is "our changing forests." It provides an opportunity for some of the AP Environmental Biology students to network, demonstrate their knowledge about forestry issues in the state (they are required to present a poster at the conference) and to participate in some excellent workshops throughout the day. The students will pay their own way for the trip, but in the past, Nicolet has paid the cost of the van. Mrs. Franklin requested that Mr. Rhude check on possibly combining with another school and taking a school bus. Six or seven students will participate in the conference.
VI. Discussion of the German American Partnership Program trip
Information regarding the German American Partnership trip was included in the Curriculum Committee packet to take place during the Summer of 2010. This trip is a continuation of a 35+ year exchange with the Gymnasium Leopoldinum in Passau, Bavaria. Nicolet students will travel to Germany from June 23, 2010-July 17, 2010 and their German counterparts will visit Nicolet families and classes from early September through September 15, 2010. Mr. Wagner and Ms. Mueller will chaperone the trip. The estimated cost to students is $2,500-$2,700.

VII. Discussion of the 4-year overnight out of state trip calendar
Included in the Curriculum Committee packet was a 4-year calendar of anticipated overnight, out-of-state trips. The purpose of this calendar is to communicate general information to Board members and parents about upcoming travel opportunities for our students. Mr. John Reiels discussed the calendar with the Curriculum Committee. The Committee requested that the calendar be titled “Planning Calendar of Tentative Overnight, Out-of-State Trips” in order to give parents and students a planning tools, but not having them think the trips are all definite. It was also recommended that it be specifically spelled out that students who graduate in June are not able to participate in a trip taking place over that summer. The calendar will be made available to parents during Back-to-School Night.

VIII. Discussion of the Understanding by Design long-range staff development plan-Mr. John Reiels
Mr. Reiels distributed information on the Key Principles of the Understanding Initiative at Nicolet (see attached). He discussed Understanding by Design and the plan to implement the model at Nicolet. Understanding by Design is a framework for linking curriculum, assessment and instruction for the purpose of improved student achievement. Professional development for this model will occur during late start days and inservice days as well as other coordinated times. Information regarding the long range professional development plan and implementation was included in the Curriculum Committee packet.

Principal DePue commended Mr. Reiels for the amount time and effort he has put forth in making this program a reality for Nicolet teachers.

IX. Discussion and possible action of Nicolet High School participation in national competitions for both co-curricular and extra-curricular activities
Dr. Monroe reported that the policy on national competitions was first brought to the School Board in July. It has been discussed at the September Curriculum Committee and School Board meetings. A copy of the policy was included in the Committee packet. Motion by Mrs. Franklin, seconded by Mrs. Peltz to approve the policy on Interscholastic Competitions. Motion passed 2-0. This item will be placed on the School Board Consent Agenda.

X. Discussion and possible action of the Exam Exemption Policy revision
Mr. Reiels discussed the proposed revision of the Exam Exemption Policy so as to align the language with that of the new Attendance Policy. This is a second reading. A copy of the policy was included in the Curriculum Committee packet. Motion by Mrs. Franklin, seconded by Mrs. Peltz to approve of the revised Exam Exemption Policy. Motion passed 2-0.
XI. Public Comment
No public comment. As a committee member, Mrs. Peltz stated that she would like to be kept more up-to-date with the various discussions that take place such as those regarding exam exemptions. She would like to see better communication.

XII. Adjournment
Motion by Mrs. Franklin, seconded by Mrs. Peltz to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 2-0.

Mrs. Peltz adjourned the October 14, 2009 Curriculum Committee meeting at 5:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ferne Hecker
Recording Secretary