Meeting Minutes

Board Present: Jennifer Peltz, Marilyn Franklin

Staff Present: Rick Monroe, John Reiels, Luke Spychalla, Jane Joyce, Nicole Mueller

Others Present: None

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 Chris Macon called the School Board member attendance roll call, with chair Mrs. Jennifer Peltz and Mrs. Marilyn Franklin, member being 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 January 13, 2010 Curriculum Committee meeting
Motion by Mrs. Franklin, seconded by Mrs. Peltz to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2010 Curriculum Committee meeting as written. Motion passed 2-0.

V. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Travel to Costa Rica for Science
Mr. Spychalla was present to request approval to plan a trip to Costa Rica in the summer of 2011. Had planned to take the trip in the summer of 2010 but could not find a female chaperone as required by Board policy. Mr. Spychalla passed out a handout (attached) with details of the trip. Mrs. Franklin stated that she would like the board to get feedback about the experience after student trips abroad and mentioned the science trip to Hawaii. Mr. Spychalla said he would ask Melissa Trepte to come to the next Curriculum Committee to give a report. Mrs. Franklin questioned how this site was chosen. Mr. Spychalla stated that it was one of the more affordable offerings. The possibility of students fundraising for the trip was discussed. Mrs. Franklin wondered about the impact on other trips that are actually part of the curriculum like the Foreign Language trips. Mr. Reiels stated that the Foreign Language trips are a good tradition but it’s also good to offer other choices to connect with other interests and reach larger number of students from the general population. The committee instructed Mr. Spychalla to continue to plan the trip for 2011 and to get feedback on the organization offering the trip and to also research opportunities within the country that might be more affordable to larger number of students.
VI. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Forensics Competitions and Travel
Mr. John Reiels presented information regarding three anticipated trips for the Forensics Team, the Wisconsin State Tournament and two national tournaments. The national trips will follow the new board policy regarding such competitions. Students competing in the Nation Forensic League Tournament will be missing their 7th hour exam and graduation. The students are responsible for working with their teachers to schedule their exam.

Motion by Marilyn Franklin, seconded by Jennifer Peltz to approve of participation in the three forensics competitions.

VII. Discussion of the FED Challenge
Dr. Rick Monroe presented information on the FED Challenge (attached). The FED Challenge is a team competition that teaches an understanding of the federal monetary system. Sue Bolly started the activity two years ago in place of the Academic Decathlon. Ms. Bolly will be taking 6 students to Chicago for the one day competition. Budget for the club is $600 for the cost of a substitute teacher and advisor stipend. If Nicolet went on to the national competition, board policy would apply.

VIII. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Education for Employment Plan.
John Reiels presented the CESA #1 Education for Employment Plan. Education for Employment has been in place for 28 years. Districts must renew their plan every 5 years. Due to the fact that there are common elements and the economic climate, it is efficient for Districts to form a consortium plan. There are 18 districts in the CESA #1 plan. The elements of the plan that are district specific are in the appendices. Mrs. Franklin asked if the teachers will get a curriculum based on the plan. Mr. Reiels indicated that where appropriate the plan will filter into the classroom and the counseling department. Dr. Monroe stated that the plan dovetails with the work being done with Understanding by Design and the actions steps coming out of the strategic planning process. Mrs. Franklin suggested that information about the Education for Employment Plan be put in the Registration Manual.

Mrs. Franklin made a motion to adopt the Education for Employment Plan. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Peltz. Motion passed 2-0.

IX. Discussion of the Strategic Planning Process
Dr. Rick Monroe distributed a handout (attached) summarizing the results of the recent Strategic Planning Process. The process identified four areas of focus, a) Addressing the needs of all students, b) Engagement, c) Partnerships and Collaborations, d) Revenue. He reported that feedback has been very favorable and that what came out of the process is congruent with other initiatives at Nicolet and the feeder districts. Dr. Monroe indicated that this information will be shared with the faculty when appropriate. The next step is for the Superintendents to develop goals and objectives and action plans to meet them.

X. Public Comment
None

XI. Committee Comments
Marilyn Franklin asked for an update from National Honor Society. Nicole Mueller, advisor indicated that she would be meeting with interested applicants at the end of February. There was discussion about having a 3rd period of eligibility each year and extending it to include sophomores. Ms. Mueller said she was looking at the research on this and would report back at a later time.

Mrs. Franklin asked about Class Rank. Dr. Monroe stated that Mr. DePue planned a three meeting process from which would come a recommendation on class rank and grade weighting.
Admissions counselors from Marquette University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison spoke about their perspective on class rank. In both instances, they said their use of class rank is limited. While it does nothing to help students with a high class rank, it actually hurts students from high performing schools whose rank is at or below the top 10%. Next meeting of the study committee is March 4th. Their recommendation will then go to the Shared Governance Team and then will be brought to the Curriculum Committee.

XII. Next meeting Date
The March Curriculum Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2010 at 4:00 pm in F124

XIII. Adjournment
Motion by Mrs. Franklin, seconded by Mrs. Peltz to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 2-0. Mrs. Peltz adjourned the meeting at 5:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Macon
Recording Secretary