Meeting Minutes

Board Present: Jennifer Peltz, Marilyn Franklin, Laurel Bear

Staff Present: Rick Monroe, John Reiels, Nicole Mueller, Jeanne Likes, Nader Raad, Steve Tilley, Greg DePue

Others Present: Ellen Redeker

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 February 10, 2010 Curriculum Committee meeting
Motion by Mrs. Franklin, seconded by Mrs. Peltz to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2010 Curriculum Committee meeting as written. Motion passed 2-0.

V. Discussion of the National Honor Society Vision – Ms. Nicole Mueller
Ms. Mueller stated that under the circumstances, that she believed that her position was being cut, she did not see the point of sharing her vision for the National Honor Society and she excused herself from the meeting.

VI. Discussion and Possible Action on the Nicolet Counseling Program – Mr. Nader Raad.
Steve Tilley and Nader Raad were invited to the meeting as a follow-up to the presentation they made to the committee in December. Mr. Tilley distributed the Comprehensive School Counseling Program developed as part of training for certification by the state of Wisconsin. Nicolet has completed Level I and Level II on individual learning plans and counseling. It is recommended that schools complete Level 3 training within 3-5 years. Mr. Raad stated that Nicolet was already doing much of what was in the state model, citing the example of the individual counseling meetings with students in 10th, 11th and 12th grade.

Marilyn Franklin made a motion to accept the NHS Comprehensive School Counseling Program as presented. Jennifer Peltz seconded the motion and the motion passed 2-0.
VII. **Discussion and Possible Action on Course Change Proposals from the Band Department.**

This is a clean-up item to make course titles and credit reflect current practices and meeting times. The changes will be made in the Registration Manual next year. Marilyn Franklin moved to make the recommended changes. Jennifer Peltz seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

VIII. **Discussion of Summer School Programs**

Dr. Monroe distributed a draft of the summer school brochure. Courses offerings include two sessions of IT essentials, English, Creative Writing and Personal Fitness. Dr. Monroe pointed out that Creative Writing is an elective and does not satisfy the English requirement. Instructors are lined up for all but Creative Writing. The position has been posted on WECAN. There is no charge for summer school.

Marilyn Franklin asked about offering a Math class. Dr. Monroe explained that we have not been able to fill a math class when offered in the past few years but said he would make inquiries with Shorewood and Whitefish Bay to see if there is interest.

IX. **Discussion of Future Communication Related to Possible Change in Class Rank/Grade Weighting.**

Mr. DePue was present to discuss the status of the Ad-Hoc committee’s study of class rank and grade weighting. Mr. DePue reported that the committee has met three times. Initial discussions centered on class rank but those discussions were tabled at the last meeting and the focus turned to grade weighting. It’s agreed that there should still be two scales but that the current ones are too complicated. Still to be discussed at the next meeting on April 15th are the subjects of waiving of classes and graduation requirements.

John Reiels asked the members of the Curriculum Committee how they wanted the findings of the Ad-Hoc Committee to be communicated to the rest of the board and the public. Dr. Monroe suggested that the Ad-Hoc Committee’s recommendations be presented to the SGT and then put on the agenda for the May Curriculum and School Board Meeting. Notification should be made so that interested members from the community can attend. The question of what classes are required by the state and what classes are Nicolet graduation requirements was raised. Dr. Monroe will bring this information back as part of the grading discussion.

X. **Discussion of Homework Policy Considerations**

This topic was first discussed at the policy committee meetings. Mr. Reiels presented the current policy on homework and a related policy on the Jewish Holidays. Concern was expressed regarding more than one long range project going on at the same time with not enough class time allotted, citing the National History Day Competition and the Science Fair. And what impact does performance in the competitions have on the class grade? Are their clear rubrics for what the projects will be judged against and is this clearly communicated to the students? Mr. Reiels said these are examples of project based learning in which students develop a deeper understanding of the concepts being taught. He agreed that adequate class time should be given and that those doing the evaluations be clear on the rubric. Concern was expressed that time was being taken away from family time and the suggestion was made that perhaps there should be something in the policy regarding a reasonable expectation for amount of time spent on homework.

XI. **Public Comments**

None

XII. **Committee Comments**

Jennifer Peltz asked for an update on PBIS, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, and whether or not the district was going to be implementing it. Jeanne Likes reported that one group has been trained to do in-house coach training. She felt it would be a good idea for another group
to be trained to provide a core of teachers to train others on the program. She stated that it is important that there be school-wide buy-in and consistency and that it would probably take another year to get enough teachers trained. Mrs. Peltz asked what could be done to address the inconsistency that currently exists in the way classroom behavior is being handled. Mr. Reiels responded that PBIS is just one piece of a number of things that are being worked on to affect change in the classroom and gave the example Understanding by Design. Where PBIS is the behavioral piece, Understanding by Design is the instructional piece that impacts what happens in all classrooms.

XIII. **Next meeting Date**
The April Curriculum Committee Meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2010 at 4:00 pm in F124

XIV. **Adjournment**
Motion by Mrs. Franklin, seconded by Mrs. Peltz to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 2-0. Mrs. Peltz adjourned the meeting at 5:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine K. Macon
Recording Secretary