

BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64
Minutes of the Committee-of-the-Whole: Curriculum Meeting
held at 7:00 p.m. on April 3, 2017
Franklin School (gym)
2401 Manor Lane, Park Ridge, IL 60068

Board Vice President Scott Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:44 p.m. Other Board members in attendance were Vicki Lee, Bob Johnson, Terry Cameron, and Tom Sotos. Board President Anthony Borrelli and Board member Mark Eggemann were absent. Also present were Superintendent Laurie Heinz, Chief School Business Official Luann Kolstad, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning Lori Lopez, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Joel Martin, Director of Student Services Jane Boyd, Director of Facility Management Ron DeGeorge, Public Information Coordinator Bernadette Tramm, and about 40 members of the public.

Board of Education meetings are videotaped and may be viewed in their full length from the District's website at: <http://www.d64.org>.

Board Vice President Zimmerman said the purpose of the meeting was to receive updates on *2020 Vision* Strategic Plan activities in the Department for Student Learning. Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning Lopez noted that Objectives 1-3 within the Strategic Plan address the rigor of the District 64 educational program, and that tonight's presentations would provide updates on three specific strategies to accomplish those objectives.

Inquiry-Based Learning

Dr. Lopez reported that inquiry-based learning is addressed as Strategy B within Objective 1: *Develop students who master the 4 c's – communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking*. She reported that inquiry-based learning is a different approach to instruction, where teachers design scenarios in which students must master the content and skills needed to solve a real-world problem. She noted that this learning experience helps students become future-ready learners by acquiring and practicing the 4 c's. Dr. Lopez reported that District 64 has set a goal of having two inquiry-based learning units in place at each grade level by 2020. This year, she noted that a cohort of teachers from each school and District 64 Instructional Technology Coaches (ITC) had participated in inquiry-based learning training, and that teams are now designing such units. As examples of this new type of instruction and learning, teacher Shelli Mata from Carpenter School presented a new grade 2 unit, called "Pet Toy Inventors." In addition, Middle School Language Arts Department Chair/Lincoln grade 6 teacher Irene Kappos and Lincoln ITC Amanda Preis presented a new unit on "Interior Design."

Common Assessments

Dr. Lopez reported that common assessments fit within Objective 2 of the Strategic Plan that focuses on implementing an aligned, articulated curriculum to provide a rigorous education for all students. She noted that teachers use common assessments to improve instruction, determine student intervention and enrichment needs, and monitor individual student learning. She noted that this objective has launched three activities in all subject areas at all grade levels: the mapping of curriculum, the development of pacing guides, and the design of common assessments. Dr. Lopez announced that this year, District 64 launched a common assessment

design project for grades K-5 in mathematics. Elementary Mathematics Curriculum Specialist Tracie Thomas shared an overview of this process with the Board.

Curriculum Reviews

Dr. Lopez pointed out that District 64 has a seven-year curriculum review cycle, in addition to ongoing support provided by curriculum specialists. She reported that a systematic process for curriculum review supports school districts with addressing changes in state and national standards, implementing research-based instructional practices, and maintaining and responsibly planning for purchases of instructional materials. Dr. Lopez pointed out that the curriculum review cycle also ensures that revisions undertaken with a school year are manageable in terms of time and resources. She reported that in 2016-17, curriculum reviews were conducted in three departments – general music, art, and instrumental music. District 64 Curriculum Specialist Terry Broeker from Emerson Middle School reported on the work undertaken this year by the General Music Curriculum Review Committee; art teacher Cindy Davies from Emerson Middle School reported on behalf of the Art Curriculum Review Committee; and Instrumental Music Curriculum Specialist Brian Jacobi of Lincoln Middle School reported on the work of the Instrumental Music Curriculum Review Committee. Each reported on how their respective committee has focused on one or more dimensions of the curriculum review process this year: curriculum mapping; the development of pacing guides; and the design of common assessments.

Public Comments

Board Vice President Zimmerman invited public comments. Members of the Art Department delivered a statement expressing their concerns regarding the increase in teaching minutes in Music and Art effective in 2017-18 as a result of the new Collective Bargaining Agreement with teachers, and the possible impact of these increased teaching minutes on preparation time of teachers particularly related to materials management in Art.

At 9:13 p.m., upon motion of Board member Cameron and second of Board member Sotos, the meeting was adjourned by consensus.

President

Secretary