

PMC Nov 18 2013

MINUTES

I. In Attendance: Pat Weil, Bill Madura, Justin Fronek, Amy Vezmar; Anthony Belli; Anthony Constantino; Ashley Sudar; Gary Kilburn; Jim Hus; Lauren Ludwig; Marc Ryser; Reese Ryzewski

II. Old Business

1. Ryser – Come up with questions
2. Advisory program – no club meetings or student council
3. Received grant for FOB entry, hopefully will be operational by Christmas
4. Science/Foreign Language keys still unresolved
5. 6th grade students are no longer supposed be sent to use the Science copier
6. Minutes adopted unanimously

III. New Business

1. Online Courses with Live Teachers

- Better services to homebound students beyond the basic services currently provided
- Better student support, and better software for course management
- More schools are adopting a blended approach with both in-class and online
- Craig will service teachers, pilot using Blackboard
- Computer aided instruction plus live teachers make it work without cutting other areas
- A demo is available
- Question: Is there an app or mobile site?

2. Possibility of hiring a new business teacher for next year due to the additional graduation requirement of a Personal Finance course. 13 sections are currently scheduled.

3. Dr. Weil will keep us informed of developments with both 1 & 2

4. Computer Lab Scheduling

Hus – Suggested centralized scheduling for all computer labs to make them more accessible for everyone.

Doing so would address the following concerns:

- The lack of notification when Guidance takes over the computer labs.
- Math - acuity
- Everyone can know which labs are available and when

Things to consider:

- How to prioritize use for testing (ECA, ISTEP), etc.
- MS testing in HS
- Who will be responsible for overall testing
- Ryser suggested asking department heads about e-scheduling with Mrs. Angotti ultimately responsible for maintaining the calendar
- Vezmar suggested using a more open approach to editing

5. Quarterly Assessments and Professional Development

- Dr. Weil - Why have quarterlies? Referred to the PDK article distributed to staff for background and rationale of current thinking on assessment
- Dr. Weil provided a draft report to be distributed to all departments for feedback.
- Departments should meet and discuss and provide feedback to Dr. Weil. This process might take a couple of weeks.

6. Thanksgiving Early Release: A likely possibility, pending the approval of the Superintendent.