

MINUTES: Meeting of the Monona Grove School District, Curriculum Committee, held on Wednesday, June 18, 2008, Cottage Grove School – Distance Learning Center at 7:15 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Phil McDade, Mike DuPlayee, Susan Fox

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim O'Connor, Sue Carr (ar: 7:30)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Bill Breisch, Gary Schumacher

I. Opening of Meeting – Phil McDade, Chairperson, opened the meeting at 7:18pm.

II. Declaration of Public Notice - acknowledged

III. Approval of Minutes from the May 21, 2008, Committee Meeting

Mike DuPlayee moved approval of the minutes of the May 21, 2008, Curriculum Committee Meeting. Tim O'Connor seconded and the motion carried.

IV. Public Appearances - none

V. Presentation – Making History: Snow Adventures (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, Taylor Prairie School) –An Example of the Use of Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills – Kathy Sanders and Gwen Pavelski, Presenters

A very detailed presentation was given that included comments from a parent, Michelle Kiefer. She is a parent of a student in the classroom and commented on the high comprehension level of her daughter regarding this project. The teamwork and creativity levels she experienced were tremendous. The presentation was very thorough and explained how 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Skills were represented. Examples of the student's writings were handed out. This project idea won an award and the teachers will be traveling to San Antonio to share and learn with other teachers.

The library media technology team will be looking at how the media team will partner with the teachers helping the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Skills to be incorporated into our instruction. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Skills will also be shared with Monona Grove staff during in-service time during the 08-09 school year.

VI. Initial New Hire Trainings – Including Those Open to Current Staff

Bill Breisch explained that through negotiations, it was approved that newly hired staff will be paid to attend trainings. The new hire will work with his/her building administrator to register for appropriate trainings. Gary Schumacher has had very positive feedback from the new teachers that have been hired so far.

VII. Professional Development Calendar – 2008-2009 – Under Development

Bill Breisch explained that this calendar will be revised as things are planned and will be posted on the district website.

Discussion included comments about the amount of time teachers are out of the classroom on teaching days and that it is viewed by the community to be excessive.

Bill Breisch addressed this topic by explaining that, for example, the new literacy adoption training time was spent during the in-service days not teaching days. Subbing was cut back for this adoption training with the exception of the Literacy Committee that needed a big block of time to evaluate programs presented by companies.

Gary Schumacher suggests this be brought to the principals as a concern and that perhaps they could attempt to schedule things after school. This time would have to be voluntary to avoid contractual issues.

Curriculum Mapping will get more attention as well as planning and use of the block schedule itself.

#### VIII. Course Textbook/Curriculum Materials Review Cycle – Initial Draft

This cycle is a work in progress at coming up with a plan for future curriculum purchases. This will help with budget planning from the business office standpoint. One of the purposes of having this cycle planned out is to try to eliminate the spikes in years where a more expensive curriculum purchase might be made.

Gary Schumacher suggested to the curriculum committee that the business services committee see the dollars this would involve.

#### IX. Establish Next Meeting Date

The next Curriculum Committee meeting will be July 16, 7:15p.m. at the Nichols School Board Room.

#### X. Adjournment

Mike DuPlayee moved that the meeting be adjourned. Phil McDade seconded and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.