

**EDUCATION/POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday, November 1, 2021**

**5:30 P.M.**

**Board Room**

Committee Members			Remaining Meeting Dates
X	Gale Husack - Chairperson		Scott Pyne
	Michele Martineau. - Co-Chair	X	Robert Vlasaty
X	Michelle Heckman	X	David Hauser
	Robert Keegan, Jr.	X	Michael Strohl
X	Matt Link	X	Todd Breiner
X	Tania Stoker		James Schnyderite
X	Michele Dotta	X	Jennifer Butz
	Eric Hill	X	Tim Weaber
X	Gene Marks		Rhonda Frantz

**Also in attendance: Gary Fedorcha, Angela Williams, Steven Jonkman, Chad Christman, Natalie Snyder, Ashley King, Krystle Tiedelman, Rachel Strucko**

**MINUTES**

**EDUCATION**

- SHINE Program Presentation (Mrs. Rachel Strucko)
  - Executive Director presented
  - Grant for two weeks at each school located at SES and PES
  - Program for at risk students in academics or for other concerns such as food insecurity
  - It is a referral program for student entry into the program
  - Reinforce our curriculum through hands on activities
  - See Trend Data for results in current programs
  - No cost to district except for use of facilities
  - Build Maker Spacers in districts and the school keeps the equipment
  - They offer professional development
  - They offer direct supports to parents as well for their education

- Mr. Christman asked if the curriculum is posted for the program
  - Mrs. Strucko stated that it is not posted because it is so fluid
- Mrs. Tiedelman asked if NLSD student volunteers were allowed to participate
  - Mrs. Strucko stated they would need to have clearances.
- Mrs. Heckman asked what happens if we get more referrals than slots
  - Mrs. Strucko noted that if a program reaches capacity they try to keep that cohort together.
- Summer Camp focuses on science, math, art, and nutrition
  - Transportation and meal are included
  - Ratio is 1-7/1-10 adult to student
  - No cost to district
  - If need be, SHINE could bring their own staff for summer camp and they would fund it.
- This Committee recommends the SHINE program go to the full board for consideration and Mrs. Strucko to present to the full board.
- Spanish Textbooks (Mrs. Tiedeman)
  - Spanish is now being taught in the middle school
  - Curriculum Council approved as did the school board
  - Dr. Gonzalez and Mrs. Kunkel reviewed textbooks along with administration and the curriculum council recommended EntreCulturas - Spanish 1 Hardcover by Wayside Publishing.
    - It would be funded through the curriculum budget; 35 copies and a 5 year license for software.
    - \$6,878.50
  - Mrs. Husack asked how many students would use the text.
    - Dr. Stoker answered all of the 8th graders
  - Mr. Christman asked if we can get a better deal through bulk pricing and buy a new high school set now.
    - Dr. Stoker explained that we have a curriculum cycle and the secondary Spanish textbook cycle is not due to be replaced.
  - This Committee supports and recommends that it goes to the Finance Committee for consideration.
- ESSER Purchases
  - Smart Music (Mr. Jonkman)
    - Mr. Jonkman provided the background on how he came to know about Smart Music via a free offering for all schools during the pandemic.
    - The method book is included with the purchase.

- ❑ Mr. Jonkman gave a brief demonstration of the Good Music tool.
- ❑ Mr. Jonkman read a letter submitted from a parent whose child used the free Smart Music during the school building closures due to the pandemic. The parent was fully in support of the district board funding this program.
- ❑ The cost is \$3,680 for a three year subscription.
- ❑ Mrs. Husack asked if this would be beneficial to the secondary band program as well.
  - ❑ Mr. Jonkman said it would be of great value to the older students as well.
- ❑ Mr. Weaber asked if a student can access tutorials for multiple instruments.
- ❑ Mrs. Snyder asked if the program could benefit students at home and in the classroom.
  - ❑ Mr. Jonkman stated that it is a great tool for the classroom and the home.
- ❑ Dr. Stoker added that she used the program for her students when she was an elementary principal.
- ❑ Mr. Breiner noted that his previous district had great success with the program as well.
- ❑ The committee supports the program going to the Finance Committee with a recommendation for approval for it to go to the full board.
- ❑ The committee also supports administration looking into the program for the secondary level with a better pricing option. If this is possible, it should go to the Finance Committee first.
- ❑ Mr. Christman asked what the current balance is in ESSER III,
  - ❑ For learning loss we have approximately \$300 left of learning loss.
- ❑ Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Videos (Dr. Stoker)
  - ❑ Dr. Stoker noted this program would be used for PES to address learning loss. The cost for one year is approximately \$79.88. It would be used for asynchronous learning and in class support.
  - ❑ Funding would be through ESSER III B for literacy support.
  - ❑ Mr. Christman asked if they could be used at home.
    - ❑ Dr. Stoker stated it would be asynchronous learning.
  - ❑ Mrs. Husack asked if they can use it during the school day.
    - ❑ Dr. Stoker said it can be used during the day or evening.
  - ❑ The committee supports it going to the Finance Committee for consideration to the full board.

- ❑ Fifty Nifty Activity Books (Dr. Stoker)
  - ❑ Dr. Stoker shared that this program would also be funded by ESSER III B for literacy support and intervention.
  - ❑ Mrs. Heckman asked if it is a physical book or virtual.
    - ❑ Dr. Stoker noted that it is a physical book.
  - ❑ Mrs. Husack asked if it aligned to our regular curriculum
    - ❑ Dr. Stoker noted that it is.
  - ❑ Total cost is \$849.49.
  - ❑ The committee supports it going to the Finance Committee for consideration to the full board.
  
- ❑ Zearn (Dr. Stoker)
  - ❑ Dr. Stoker gave a description of the program and how it supports our Eureka Math program. It is fully aligned with Eureka but is much more interactive and engaging for students.
  - ❑ This would be to replace some of our Eureka program components.
  - ❑ Mr. Breiner gave input on how the program has been utilized at Slatington for approximately one year with success and positive feedback from the teachers.
  - ❑ This would eliminate the need to produce copies in house for Eureka
  - ❑ Zearn is not prorated if implemented after the start of the school year.
  - ❑ Since Slatington already purchased it out of their building budget, we also asked for permission for the Slatington building budget to be reimbursed through ESSER III B. Slatington Zearn was last purchased in August of 2021.
  - ❑ Mrs. Husack asked if the professional development for teachers would be time consuming.
    - ❑ Mr. Breiner noted they already have the knowledge base due to Eureka training.
  - ❑ Mrs. Husack asked how will sustain this after the ESSER funding is depleted.
    - ❑ Dr. Stoker noted that the money saved from not paying staff to make Eureka copies and the printing we use LCTI to make prints.
    - ❑ Mr. Breiner noted that it is already in his building budget and that it would be less of a cost for Peters for the cost of outsourcing the printing.

- ❑ Mrs. Heckman noted that she also has fear about sustaining any programs after ESSER funds are depleting.
  - ❑ Mrs. Husack noted that we need to consider long term cost the next time we reconsider the elementary math program.
  - ❑ The committee supports the program going to the Finance Committee for consideration for the full board.
- ❑ Comprehensive Planning Timeline (Dr. Stoker)
    - ❑ The timeline has been extended until August 30, 2022 for Phase III districts.
      - ❑ NLSD is a Phase III district.
      - ❑ The Special Education Plan is also now extended until July 30.

**POLICY**  
(Dr. Stoker)

- ❑ Federal Programs
  - ❑ Dr. Stoker noted that we are addressing policies related to Federal Programs.
  - ❑ Policy 150 - Title I Comparability of Services
    - ❑ Dr. Stoker shared the updated languages.
    - ❑ The committee members support the policy going to first reading on the November 8th board agenda.
  - ❑ Policy 827 - Conflict of Interest **review**
    - ❑ The committee does not recommend any changes and the review is complete.
  - ❑ Policy 626 - Federal Fiscal Compliance
    - ❑ Dr. Stoker reviewed the updated language.
    - ❑ The committee members support the policy going to first reading on the November 8th board agenda.
  - ❑ Policy 626.1 - Travel Reimbursement - Federal Programs **review**
    - ❑ The committee does not recommend any changes and the review is complete.
  - ❑ Policy 918 - Title I Parent and Family Engagement - **review**
    - ❑ The committee does not recommend any changes and the review is complete.

***Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, January 3, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.***