



SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CENTER

INSTRUCTIONAL COUNCIL

**MARCH 18, 2010
8:30 AM – 2:00 PM
ROOM 240**

MINUTES

Meeting Attendance

Members: Celia Banks, Jan Booth, Lori Brandes, Susan Collins, Suzanne Colombe, Chris Dennison, Heather Hunt, Doug Johnson, Julie Kallenbach, Denise Lockwald, Jennifer McDonnell, Wendy Molof, Sahar Nammari, Michelle Rogers Besch, Lavonne Smiley, Nan Strohmaier, Rosa Syphers, Katie Thomson, Pamela Tonyan, Kathleen Turnquist, Lynn Glaser

Observers: Lisa Whitmer

Guests:

Presenters: Carol DePue, Joe Sieczkowski, Gary Coti, Stephen Buchs, Russ Bartz, Susan Ali, and Gina Crespo

Meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m. The January 21, 2010 minutes were reviewed and corrected, Katie Thomson motioned to approve minutes with a second from Denise Lockwald, motion carried, minutes will be posted on website.

I. Initial Presentations

- A. PLTW Digital Electronics (DE) – Carol DePue, Joe Sieczkowski, Gary Cotie, Stephen Buchs and Russ Bartz presenting. This course is designed for students interested in engineering and architecture related occupations. The course addresses getting and keeping a job, work relationships, career opportunities, goal setting and realization, leadership and resource management. Approval is being sought to offer this course at all five (5) comprehensive high schools (this course is currently being taught at BHS Academy) during the 2012-2013 school year. Students explore technology systems and manufacturing processes to find out how math, science, and technology help people. This course is a project based, hands-on experience to teach students the key elements and skills of engineering and technology based careers. Presenters displayed a selection of projects that the students at BHS Academy have been working on. A member of council asked if it was possible to receive AP credit for these courses and Carol DePue indicated that the credit is articulated, which mirrors AP.

- B. PLTW Principles Of Engineering (POE) - – Carol DePue, Joe Sieczkowski, Gary Cotie, Stephen Buchs and Russ Bartz presenting. This course is designed for students interested in engineering and architecture related occupations. The course addresses getting and keeping a job, work relationships, career opportunities, goal setting and realization, leadership and resource management. Approval is being sought to offer this course at all five (5) comprehensive high schools (this course is currently being taught at BHS

Academy) during the 2011-2012 school year. Students are immersed in real world engineering problems. Presenters displayed a selection of projects that the students at BHS Academy have been working on. The presenters were commended on their passion and excitement when showing the students projects and how students want to continue working even after the end of class.

- C. PLTW Gateway to Technology Program – M.S. - Carol DePue, Joe Sieczkowski, Gary Cotie, Stephen Buchs and Russ Bartz presenting. Approval of this proposal is being sought for implementation at Canton and Tefft Middle School for next fall (2010-2011 school year) as a nine (9) week rotation class. Over the next two years, Design & Modeling for 7th and 8th grade will be introduced during the 2010-2011 school year and Automation & Robotics for 8th grade during the 2011-2012 year at which time Design & Modeling will become 7th grade only. These courses will be taught by science teachers. All Project Lead the Way teachers are required to successfully complete a 2-week intensive training for each course they teach. A differentiated curriculum enables all students to develop/strengthen science, technology and math skills in preparation for post secondary education.

Streamwood High School has received a federal grant enabling these courses to be offered at Canton and Tefft Middle School which are in Streamwood High School's feeder pattern

II. Action Items
None

III. Information Items

- A. Secondary General Ed & ELL – Grades 7-12 Language Arts Curriculum – Susan Ali & Gina Crespo presenting. Work continues on each grade level, and a synopsis for each quarter was added. The purpose is to provide an *at a glance* summary of the content for teachers. Columns, learning activities and terminology have been defined. Synopsis content includes: themes, writing focus, reading strategy focus, literary elements/techniques, word analysis/vocabulary, and grammar usage/mechanics. The presenters reviewed content revisions, common assessments for each level, format changes and learning activities to support ELL students. They also reviewed resources available for teachers.
- B. Response to Intervention (RtI) Update – Carla Cumblad presenting. The February RtI series has been completed. Sessions focused on answering questions that teams have about RtI, teams, and interventions.

Each building continues to implement three levels of building teams: Building leadership, grade/department teams, and intervention teams.

Work is being done on coming to an agreement on the definition of an intervention, who is eligible for interventions, and what kind of measurement exists regarding interventions. Each building was asked to complete an assessment of their interventions. The intention is to develop a comprehensive, integrated, long range plan for interventions and support in the district.

AIMSWeb is the system that was selected to assist the district in monitoring the progress of students in literacy interventions. Professional development for select staff in Cluster A schools, three other elementary/middle schools, and all special education instructional staff in elementary and middle schools was conducted in January and February.

The RtI/PBIS web-page are complete and operating. Go to the district web-page -> Schools -> Programs - > RtI/PBIS.

PBIS the “behavioral side” of the RtI model continues to be implemented in 32 of the district’s schools. Recently, 14 schools have been recognized by the statewide network and an additional 6 have been also recognized by the State Board of Education. PBIS is progressing very well in the district.

The third community forum has been held. The group continues to work on structure, membership and purpose. The RtI Coordinator has been working with Karen Fox to clarify the role of this group in relation to other partnerships that already exist with the district. The identified membership of the forum has been refined to include mental health, social services and support services for students and families.

IV. Dialogue Topic
None

V. Other

Time permitted for an update from the Report Card Committee.

After Spring Break, the committee will send an electronic survey to all K-6 colleagues in order to obtain their feedback. This information will be processed at their April meeting.

A council member questioned whether there was a grading scale? How much does homework count? Does the elementary report card align with middle school?

A council member felt that we need an honest measurement – criteria based reporting tool.

A MS/HS Math Curriculum update was also presented. There have been two meetings. College readiness – common core standards are being examined. The committee is also looking at MS course sequence.

Further discussion took place and one council member voiced concern regarding the AIMSWeb training that was provided to teachers and felt that the training was not adequate and questioned the cost of implementing this assessment piece. Information was shared that the purchase of this program is covered with grant dollars.

Denise Lockwald motioned to adjourn at 2:00 pm, seconded by Doug Johnson, motion carried.