

# **CENTRAL COLUMBIA SCHOOL DISTRICT CURRICULUM DEPARTMENT**

## **STRATEGIC PLAN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE Minutes**

Wednesday, October 8, 2008  
6:00 P.M.  
District Office Boardroom

### I. Attendance:

Janice Dysart, Ralph DeFrain, Jeff Groshek, Chad Heintzelman, Jim Hollister, Sue Jackson, John Kurelja, Bruce Rhoads, Dave Shipe, Beth Snyder, Roger Williams, Ellen Withrow

- II. Mr. Groshek presented on the HS and its initiatives. Project 720, (1 of 2 schools in PA with all 4 PDE grants) CFF, Dual Enrollment, and College and Career Counseling Grant. He explained what each grant is for and the amount of money we are receiving for those grants (see handout).

HS – Project 720. Shared a checklist to ensure HS is following the project 720 guidelines. HS is at about 85% of having all items checked off. Mr. Groshek discussed career pathways as part of 720. Pathways name Michael Thompson. Middletown HS. He has help direct us in terms of career pathways and project 720. Pathways- real world learning. “Why do I need to know this?” Our curricular expectations are rising. Provide a curriculum that readies every kid for post secondary education and a career and be successful. Why pathways? Want kids to keep engaged in HS. Make learning relevant.

Pathways work done so far-

- Summer workshops
- Aligned elective system with given Pathways
- Developed Pathway Groups
- Monthly Meetings

HS Pathways include:

- Human Services
- Agri-Science, Health and Sciences
- Engineering, Manufacturing, and Industrial Technology
- Arts and Communications
- Business, Finance, Marketing, Information Technology

Mr. Groshek also presented where the HS is headed next with this.

- Establish pathway chairs
- Visitations being done
- Linking things with the MS-
- Curriculum Guide- identifies the structure of this system.

Questions to be answered and explained:

- Are we going to be pigeon holing students?
- How can we systematically role this out so there is clear understanding?
- When can students change pathways? How often?
- Are parents involved in pathway decisions for their children?
- How does a student select a pathway? What are they basing their decision on?
- Is their flexibility with pathway program.
- Too early for kids at this age to make this decision.
- Can the electives be clearly mapped out to see what role they play in this system.
- Is the completion of a pathway a graduation requirement?
- How can we do a better job explaining this to the public?

### III. Review goals for the Central Columbia Strategic Planning Process

Dr. Kurelja shared a list of items in the strategic plan that need to be addressed this year. (See Document). Items in all caps are required by the state.

Parent portal- gradebook software. Dr. Kurelja showed parent access to gradebook to use technology to push your child's information to you. Parent has ability to get access to their child's historical data as well.

Math- all 8<sup>th</sup> graders are taking a form of algebra. Everyday math is up to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. We are currently researching content for 7<sup>th</sup> grade to bridge everyday math with HS and 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Reading- Balanced literacy is up to 8<sup>th</sup> grade and is working on content literacy in the HS.

Student Attendance- rigor and relevant curriculum.

Study and Improve District Facilities-

- We are hurting for storage space.
- Warehouse is 3500 square ft. It is full during the school year.
- ES has very little storage space available.
- HS has limited area for storage.
- We are looking for feasible solutions to solve storage concerns in the district. When we look to renovate the HS we need to consider storage. Short term long term storage was discussed. Space is most limited in the beginning of the school year. Possibility of storing things off property was mentioned.

- IV. Dr. Kurelja showed the web page on the district web page and curriculum site for strategic plan communication. (Minutes, agendas, and meeting dates).
- V. Next meeting is on April 8, 2009 at 6:00 P.M.
- VI. Adjournment