



# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The Mission of the Franklin Township Public Schools is to provide excellent educational opportunities that meet or exceed New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for every student; maintain an environment that engenders an appreciation of the value of every student; develop every student to his/her highest potential; and instill the attitudes, skills, and knowledge necessary to become independent, contributing members of a democratic, multi-cultural society.*

## CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

March 7, 2016

Board Office Meeting Room

6:00- 7:15 pm

### Committee Members:

Ms. Margaret Steele, Chair  
Ms. Laurie Merris  
Ms. Latee Walton-McCleod  
Ed Potosnak, Ex-Officio

### District Staff:

Dr. Jeffrey Charney, Interim Assistant Superintendent for C & I  
Dr. John Ravally, Superintendent

### Attendees:

Ms. Margaret Steele, Ms. Laurie Merris, Ms. Latee Walton-McCleod, Mr. Ed Potosnak, Dr. Charney, Dr. Ravally, N. Allen, P. Bruno, M. Russo, J. Roberts, T. DiGanci.

### Minutes

### Old Business:

- A. AP History Text.....Bruno
- B. ESL for Parents .....Ochoa
- C. District PARCC Participation Rate Plan.....Washington
- D. QSR Focus Schools
- E. District Wide Interventions

Motion to approve old minutes passed.

### New Business

#### I. Course Proposal: Integrated Math 1 and 2.....N. Allen

IM 1 is a course designed to give 9<sup>th</sup> grade students that are not prepared to take Algebra 1 another year to learn pre-Algebra skills so that they can be successful in the Algebra course in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. IM 2 would similarly prepare students for Algebra 2 as upperclassmen. 5 scenarios were offered in which students could complete 4 years of math in the high school for which they could receive credit. PARCC requires students to pass Algebra 1 or Geometry as per state graduation requirements. For a group of approximately 33 rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade students, this is difficult. Several members of the committee asked what programs were being offered to prepare these students in the middle school and in Samson Smith. Lab classes, after school and summer school programs are in place to address these needs. Proposal passed with the provision that both IM 1 and IM 2 be offered next year.

#### II. Mock Presidential Election FHS.....P. Bruno

Ms. Bruno presented a proposal to approve "Every Kid Votes," on Nov 1 for all elementary schools. Two teacher coordinators per school will facilitate student voting. Motion approved.

#### III. Course Proposal: Design and Problem Solving.....M. Russo (Middle School Admin)

This course is on the books at the middle school but has not been offered for a number of years. It would be revised during the summer to reflect a new Makerspace curriculum in which students engage in the design thinking process and make actual models that reflect their idea. The course will be offered to Grades 7-8, with Level 1 being offered next year to grade 7 with emphasis on what for and how to use design thinking process. This module would be succeeded by another 9 week course in which students use tools in the design process. Level 3 which follows, would include 21<sup>st</sup> century technology such as using CAD and a 3D printers toward solving real world problems. Motion to approve the revision of course in the summer to meet updated requirements passed.

**IV. Kean/Rutgers Grant: NJ Math and Science Partnership..... J. Roberts**

A grant for a Math-Science Partnership with Kean University was presented. The program would train 10 secondary science teachers from Franklin who could earn approximately 100 hours of professional development for the 2016-17 school year. The grant seeks to increase the content knowledge of teachers through the NGSS. 70 hours of training would take place in the summer and four days of training would take place during the school year. No Cost to the district: substitute coverage during the school year will be paid through the MSP Grant. Motion to accept participation in the grant passed.

**V. Manhattan Institute: Youth Outcome Study/Survey.....T. DiGanci**

A study is being conducted by Virginia Commonwealth University on the effect of the NJ Oratorical Society involvement in the lives of participants both academically and socially. A number of our students belong to this group. The survey would be taken by all 12<sup>th</sup> grade English classes and two focus groups would be surveyed after school for further questioning. Motion to give survey passed.

**VI. RVCC CEP Associates Degree program.....J. Roberts**

The high school participates in a joint program with RVCC to receive college credit for a number of STEM courses that we teach. Teachers are certified by RVCC to teach these at the high school. RVCC is augmenting the program to develop an Associates Degree program in STEM. Courses taken for credit cost \$170 per course and courses not offered at the high school may be taken at RVCC. Students that completed program would graduate with an Associates Degree from RVCC and a high school diploma at the end of their senior year. Motion to participate in program passed.

**Attachments:**

Integrated Math 1 & 2 course proposal

Int1-Int2 Sequence-Topic

Every Kid Votes!

Design and Problem Solving Course Outline Admin Proposal/Powerpoint

Kean/Rutgers Grant

Youth Outcome Evaluation

CEP