

Board of Education
School District of Rhinelander
Instruction and Accountability Committee
Monday, January 14, 2019
MEETING NOTES

Judy Conlin, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order on Monday, January 14, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Committee Members Present: Mary Peterson, Ann Munninghoff Eshelman, and Judy Conlin
Committee Members Absent: None

Also present were Superintendent Kelli Jacobi, School Board President Ron Counter, and Kayla Tomason of the Northwoods River News.

Chair/Superintendent Comments/Reports

Chair Conlin and Superintendent Jacobi had no reports or updates to share at this time.

Citizens/Delegations

No citizens/delegations wished to address the committee.

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the December 10, 2018 committee meeting were accepted.

Report/Discussion/Action Topic(s)

New Music Courses for Rhinelander High School

At the December meeting, the Committee reviewed the new courses for the Music program at the high school. Among the new proposed courses were Music in Film and the Note-ables Adapted Music Curriculum for Students with Special Needs. The Committee asked that more information about these courses be obtained and then be brought back for consideration at a later date.

Since the December meeting, Administration and Music Teacher Desiree Wattlet had reviewed the two new courses presented to Committee in December, developed another new course, Music Appreciation, and proposed that the sections for Concert Choir be changed. The Committee was provided information on the following proposed courses:

- New course outline for Music in Film
- New course outline for Music Appreciation
- New course outline for Exploring Music (previously recommended as the Note-ables Adapted Music Curriculum for Students with Special Needs)
- Proposal for a change in the sections for Concert Choir

After consideration of the new courses and comments by the Committee, as well as information received from Music Dept. staff members that were in attendance during the topic discussion, the Committee decided not to take action on any of the new courses at this time. The Committee did recommend Board approval of a change in the Rhinelander High School (RHS) sections for Concert Choir 1 and Concert Choir 2 to be changed to RHS Concert Choral (Choir I) - Freshman/Sophomore Choir and RHS Ensemble Singers (Concert Choir 2) - Junior/Senior Choir.

Awarding High School Math and Science Credits at the Middle School Level

At the December 18, 2018 regular monthly school board meeting, the Board approved the proposal for high school math credit (Algebra I and Geometry) to be awarded at the middle school level beginning with the 2019-20 school year. With that approval, students would be offered the opportunity to take up to two high school level math courses while enrolled at the middle. Students passing either of the two courses would have the opportunity to earn one (1) elective credit for each course while enrolled at the middle school.

At this meeting, the Committee was asked to consider the request that the math credit be awarded with the current school year rather than waiting until the 2019-20 school year. Administration also proposed that middle school students be allowed a high school science credit if they take and pass Physical Science. There are a number of middle school students currently enrolled in the two math and the Physical Science classes, and the current middle school math and science teachers are both licensed to teach at the high school level, which follows all state requirements. Allowing the current middle school students who are taking the courses, working hard, and passing will benefit them as they enter the high school level at the start of the 2019-20 school year.

The Committee recommended approval of the proposal to award the credits during the current 2018-19 school year rather than waiting until the 2019-20 school year. If approved, the change in how credits are awarded would be added to the 2019-20 middle school course descriptions and noted in the school's parent/student handbook.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.