

School District of Rhinelander
Board of Education

Instruction and Accountability Committee

Monday, December 10 2018

MEETING NOTES

Judy Conlin, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order on Monday, December 10, 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 Jamie Taylor 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 September 10, 2018 committee meeting were accepted.

Report/Discussion/Action Topic(s)

Courses for Rhinelander High School (RHS) and James Williams Middle School (JWMS)

Teri Maney, Director of Instruction, and Rachel Hoffman, Title I Math Specialist, as well as Desiree Wattelet for the music course proposals, presented proposals for the following new courses at the high school level:

Art

Course Name: Ceramics III -- In Ceramics III, students will continue to develop their clay manipulating skills using a variety of techniques. Art appreciation, art history, and art criticism will be a part of this course as the work is discussed and studied from various potters.

Prerequisite: Students must have previously taken Ceramics I and II

Grades: 10, 11, 12

High School Credit: 0.5 Elective Credit

Course Length: Semester

Technical Education

Course Name: Dream It, Design It, Create It 2 -- This second level Fab Lab course is designed as an opportunity to use the tools, knowledge, and experience gained in Dream It (DI), Design It (DI), and Create It (CI). Students will work closely with local businesses and groups to problem-solve, design, and create solutions to solve an identified need.

Prerequisite: Dream It, Design It, Create It

Grades: 11, 12

High School Credit: 0.5 Elective Credit

Course Length: Semester

Music

Course Name: RHS Concert Chorale -- This choral program is designed to provide an atmosphere for the enjoyment, appreciation, and performance of all types of choral music.

Prerequisite: One Year of Concert Choir and Director's Approval

Grades: 11, 12

High School Credit: 1.0 Elective Credit

Course Length: Year

Course Name: RHS Treble Choir -- This course is designed to provide an atmosphere for the enjoyment, appreciation, and performance of all types of choral music.

Prerequisite: N/A

Grades: 9, 10

High School Credit: 1.0 Elective Credit

Course Length: Year

Course Name: Music in Film -- This course follows the development of music and sound in film; from the beginning of the silent-movie era to the great film composers of the twentieth century and today. This course could be offered online or face-to-face.

Prerequisite: N/A

Grades: 11, 12

Dual Credit: Transcribed Credit with Nicolet

High School Credit: 0.5 Elective Credit

Course Length: Semester

Course Name: The Nota-ables Adapted Music Curriculum for Students with Special Needs -- This course offers an exploratory music experience for students with unique needs.

Prerequisite: N/A

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

High School Credit: 0.5 Elective Credit

Course Length: Semester

Science

Course Name: Earth and Space Science -- This is a one-year or two-semester 9th grade course which offers insight into the environment on earth and the earth's environment in space. This is the first science class for students in a beginning math class.

Prerequisite: N/A

Grades: 9

High School Credit: 1.0 Science Credit

Course Length: Year

Elective

Course Name: Leadership Development -- This is a course where students learn the character traits of a leader and how to lead effectively.

Prerequisite: N/A

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

High School Credit: 0.5 Elective Credit

Course Length: Semester

Math

Course Name: College Mathematics (1080410700) -- This course is designed to review and develop fundamental concepts of mathematics pertinent to the areas of arithmetic and algebra, geometry and trigonometry, probability and statistics. Special emphasis is placed on problem solving, critical thinking and logical reasoning, making connections, and using calculators.

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Dual Enrollment: Transcribed Credit

High School Credit: 1 Math Credit

Course Length: Year

Course Name: Mathematical Reasoning (1080413400) -- This activity-based approach is used to explore numerical relationships, graphs, proportional relationships, algebraic reasoning, and problem solving using linear, exponential and other mathematical models.

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Dual Enrollment: Transcribed Credit

High School Credit: 1 Math Credit

Course Length: Year

Course Name: Consumer Mathematics A -- This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive study of many types of consumer decisions. Topics can include earning wages, deductions, taxes and insurance, recreation, and spending.

Prerequisite: N/A

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

High School Credit: 0.5 Math Credit

Course Length: Semester

Course Name: Consumer Mathematics B -- This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive study of many types of consumer decisions. Topics include earning, personal finances, budgeting, banking and investing, credit, automobile expenses, housing taxes, and insurance.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

High School Credit: 0.5 Math Credit

Course Length: Semester

Course Name: Algebra I Extended -- This course is designed to develop the student's arithmetic and algebraic skills necessary for problem solving and advanced mathematics study. Instead of working with constant numeric quantities in arithmetic, Algebra I Extended deals with variables.

Prerequisite: N/A

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

High School Credit: 1 Math credit, 1 Elective Credit (for the extended time period)

Course Length: Year

The committee also considered the following proposal to approve high school math credit at the middle school level:

James Williams Middle School (JWMS) currently offers students the opportunity to take up to two high school level math courses (Algebra 1 and Geometry) while enrolled at the middle school. Currently, students who take either of the two courses have the opportunity to earn one (1) elective credit for each course they take and pass while enrolled at the middle school. The secondary principals and middle school staff have proposed this be changed so students would be able to earn one (1) mathematics credit for either Algebra 1 or Geometry if taken and passed in 8th grade. If a student takes a high school course in 7th grade, it would remain as an elective credit.

If approved, the change in how credits are awarded would be added to the middle school course descriptions and noted in the school's parent/student handbook. The change would become effective for the 2019-2020 school year.

The course proposals and the credit proposal for the middle school were reviewed and considered. With the review, Committee members recommended a change in the titles for RHS Concert Chorale and RHS Treble Choir to Concert Choir I and Concert Choir II; requested that the Music in Film course be brought back to Committee in January with a course description; and, will review the music course, The Notables Adapted Music Curriculum for Students with Special Needs, at the January meeting after further review by Administration. All other new high school courses and the proposal for the high school math credit for middle school students were recommended for Board approval and implementation.

Hire for an Additional High School Counselor

A proposal for the hire of an additional high school counselor to take on the responsibilities necessary to help with student counseling needs and to help with addressing the needs for the success of the American College Testing (ACT), Academic and Career Planning (ACP), and Youth Apprenticeship (YA) programs was considered. Teri Maney, Director of Instruction, presented the committee with rationale for the hire of an additional full-time counselor and shared background information of

the programs listed below, and Ryan Tienhaara, a high school counselor, was also present to address the need for an additional high school counselor.

Academic and Career Planning (ACP)

ACP has been approached through a variety of ways. Three years ago, a counselor was assigned with the task of writing the ACP program and rolling out its implementation. That counselor accomplished what was needed, but with her reassignment in the district this year and the loss of a counselor through retirement at the end of last school year, the duties have had to be distributed between all school counselors. Due to the ACP requirements and the counselors' already full schedules, this arrangement has also proved to lack the time and commitment necessary to properly carry out the program.

Youth Apprenticeship (YA)

With the district determined to build and sustain a strong YA program, it is necessary to have a staff member that will be able to accomplish all the aspects for a successful program. With the hire of an additional counselor, one counselor would be able to work with area employers, set up visits, monitor the programming, and help to nurture the school/employer relationship. Local businesses and industries have already reached out to the district to share their concerns of a projected shortage of skilled workers. They are ready and willing to work with the district to find solutions for the Rhinelander area.

American College Testing (ACT)

In 2017-18, during homeroom time, high school teachers used the 'Method Test Prep' to prepare students for the ACT. Although this helped to better reach students on a universal level, teachers struggled to provide them with the quality of lessons necessary to adequately prepare them for the test. With the hire of an additional counselor, one of the counselors would be responsible for preparing students for the ACT, which in return would provide the district with higher achievement scores.

The committee members were informed that funding for the additional staff member can be accomplished by building the YA program. The high school would be eligible to receive up to \$1,000 for every student involved in the program. Through student data gathered, there is the possibility of having as many as 60 YA positions next year, which would bring in \$60,000; with potential to increase in subsequent years with a successful and well-monitored program.

The committee recommended Board approval of the request to hire an additional counselor at the high school for the 2019-20 school year and to work part-time during the 2018-2019 school year to lay the foundation for the ACT, ACP, and Youth Apprenticeship programs.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.