

EDUCATION/COMMUNITY/POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT – 3/21/13

At the ECP Committee meeting on Monday, March 11, 2013 several topics were discussed. The topics being considered for action include revisions to policies, textbook adoptions, and changes to the York Avenue Elementary and Inglewood Elementary schools' sending areas.

The amended policies that were presented to the committee were Board Policy #4271 – Drug and Alcohol Testing – Transportation Department and Board Policy #5140 – Student Wellness. Revisions to both policies are necessary in order that the policies be in compliance with and reflect changes in the applicable laws as well as district procedures.

Also, the committee considered a request to adopt four textbooks for the high school Math department. These textbooks are being recommended for adoption in response to changes to Chapter 4 law and the adoption of the PA Common Core Standards. Additionally, a need for an updated Anatomy textbook for the Health department at the high school was determined. This is due to the age of the current textbooks [1983] and the curriculum having been updated. The nature of the Anatomy course requires an updated textbook that aligns with changes and discoveries made in the medical field.

In order to better balance the enrollment for the physical plant facility of York Avenue Elementary School, it was recommended to assign students who reside in Broadmore Apartments and attend York Avenue to the newly renovated Inglewood Elementary School beginning September 3, 2013.

In addition, three information items were presented to the committee. Curriculum updates were provided for Language Arts and Math for grades K-6, English, Math, Science, Health, Social Studies, and Family Consumer Sciences for grades 7-12, and Art and Music for grades K-12. One of the areas being addressed is the development or revision of the curricula so that it is aligned with the new PA Common Core Standards.

Updates regarding the Concurrent Enrollment Program were presented. This program affords students the opportunity to take college level courses for college credit at a reduced cost. Participating schools include Montgomery County Community College, Arcadia, and Penn State Abington. Overall, 45 students participated in 46 courses. The student success rate (defined as earning a grade C or better) was 91.3%.

The results of the Winter Keystone Testing were shared with the committee. The percentage of students scoring proficient or above was as follows: 80% in Literature, 77% in Math, and 65% in

Biology. For students who are not proficient, there are remediation options. Spring keystones will be administered to students in grades 7 through 10. Tenth grade students will take the Literature and Biology exams. Algebra 1 will be given to all 7th through 10th grade students who have completed Algebra 1 and have not yet taken or scored proficient on this assessment.

The Committee also reviewed student travel requests.

The next ECP meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2013.