

West Islip School District
Education Committee
2016-2017

Minutes
October 13, 2016

Members in attendance: Steve Gellar, Kevin O'Connor, Annmarie LaRosa Bernadette Burns, Anne Rullan

Also in attendance: Ronald Maginniss, Scott Brady

Meeting started at 7:25 p.m.

Instructional Technology

The District began the professional development training for our instructional faculty and support staff in using Google Apps for Education. Teacher training includes how to effectively utilize Google Apps in their classroom. The focus for this year will be how teachers can collaborate and share in their classroom. Teachers will be working on the District Google Platform with a district-issued Chromebook to become familiar and plan for a possible deployment of devices to students in the following school year. As part of the initiative, students will eventually have district-issued Gmail accounts in grades 7 through 12 to work in the Google Environment. We will be also creating Student Portal Accounts in Infinite Campus for students to access their own grades and assignments. Parents will be notified of the accounts prior to issuing them to the students.

Currently, the Technology Committee is recommending a 1:1 initiative with two grade levels in the 2017-2018 school year. Curriculum Council will review the recommendations for deployment taking into consideration implications for curriculum and the budget process. Further, deployment will require additional IT support in deployment, trouble-shooting and instructional use. The District is waiting for approval from the Smart Schools Investment Plan which will allow us to move forward with the infrastructure for a wireless environment.

Review of Curriculum Projects

The Curriculum Council Committees reviewed the following curriculum projects and submitted them for review:

- K-12 Physical Education Curriculum
- Algebra I SC – Year 1
- Algebra I SC – Year 2
- Introduction to College Math
- Spanish IB HL
- Italian IB
- Italian AP

Response to Intervention Plan Update

The Response to Intervention Plan (RtI) has been updated to include K-12 literacy, K-8 mathematics and K-12 behaviors. RtI provides a proactive approach to intervention by reviewing every student's progress at least three times per year.

Professional Development Plan Update

The Professional Development Plan has been updated to include the changes from NYS Education Department regarding the requirements for Continuing Teacher & Leader Education (CTLE). Major revisions include the 100 required professional development hours by holders of Professional Certification and Level III Teaching Assistant Certificates. The plan also includes an expansion of our professional development for new teachers based on a four-year probationary period. Year Four Teacher project is the Teacher as a Leaders using the Teacher Leader Model Standards.

Expansion of Engineering and Technology

The District is currently reviewing our space at the High School to determine how best to meet the needs of our students seeking opportunities in Engineering and Technology.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.