

Grand Blanc Community Schools
ADVISORY CURRICULUM COUNCIL

May 13, 2021

Minutes

Present: Kerry Applegate, Barb Bailey, Diana Balbaugh, Lisa Bell, Melanie Brock, Katie Church, Jan Cornelison, Sarah Courneya (Co-Chairperson), Sonya James, Deb Jewell, Rachel Kenney, Kim Locher, Gina Pearce, Maria Peters, Anna Schunot, Gary Smith, Corey Stawicki, Lori Taylor, Neely Thompson, Allyson Walroth (Chairperson), Herb Wansitler, and Amy Williams

Board Member Present: Martin Ray

Absent: Dana Bleicher, Jenna Houser, Kathleen Howell, Lori Jackson, Brian Konopka, Jeff Torok

I. STAGE I

AP Spanish Language – Adriana Bas (\$1,814)

Adriana is seeking funds to switch textbook from current outdated version to a newer (2020) version. Request is for a one-year subscription which includes both online textbook & workbook.

Motion of support by Neely Thompson. Seconded by Rachel Kenney. Motion carried.

MS Health – Deb Jewell (\$278)

Deb is asking for funds for printing of Project ALERT Posters, which are an online download. Deb has access to a 12x19 printer, the costs would be for ink to print the posters at home. This is a brand-new course that will be piloted this year for 6th grade students. With the input from many stakeholders, it was decided this would become part of the 6th grade Explorer Block – a 9-week rotation of Health, Tech, a Foreign Language (or some other electives) balanced with PE or Music. Question was asked if this aligns with the district Sex Ed curriculum, but was clarified that this is a separate course dealing with personal hygiene, social/emotional health (basically all other topics outside of HIV and Reproduction). As requested, by the Sex Ed Advisory Board, the topics of HIV and Reproduction will remain at 7th grade level. In previous conversations, Dr. Alward stated this course will be taught by a health certified instructor (one available at both EMS & WMS). Everyone agreed this was a good direction for the district.

Motion of support by Melanie Brock. Seconded by Kim Locher. Motion carried.

German 2 – Cynthia Decker (\$1,593)

Cynthia is asking for funds to pilot a one-year subscription for a newer version online textbook (**Mosaik 2**) – **Mosaik** has been used before. This particular textbook offers a lot of practice for students beyond what the teacher assigns and students have opportunity for additional practice that gives immediate feedback.

Motion if support by Melanie Brock. Seconded by Gina Pearce. Motion carried.

II. STAGE II

German 1 – Cynthia Decker (\$4,912)

Very much the same request as German 2 as they are sequenced events. This request is seeking funds for a six-year subscription (Mosaik 1). Both motions were made together

Motion if support by Melanie Brock. Seconded by Gina Pearce. Motion carried.

To clarify –motions were combined (German 2 & German 1)

ASL 1 – Megan Wood (\$4,320)

ASL 2 – Megan Wood (\$1,080)

Megan presented both ASL 1 & ASL 2 together, as they use the same resources to develop curriculum. This past year ASL 1 was piloted and **ASL Defined** was used. This is an interactive online platform that has 5 different levels (Beginner to Advanced), with 300 themed lessons with each lesson having 6-8 different learning activities. Megan has also used **Master ASL TE** as a supplemental resource, as she feels **ASL Defined** lacks grammar with the deaf culture. She is seeking funds for a 6-year subscription for ASL 1 (if purchased in advance the cost is \$8/student vs. \$12/student), and a 1-year subscription for ASL 2 at the same rate (\$8/student). The price difference between the two requests is there are less students in ASL 2.

Motion of support by Diana Balbaugh. Seconded by Kerry Applegate. Motion carried.

Science Fiction Literature – Justin Taylor/Dan Clark (\$2,145)

Justin presented for Science Fiction Lit. He explained this is an upper-level English elective to engage Seniors with literature they wouldn't have seen in a traditional English classroom, five books were piloted this past year.

There was some discussion if Bobcat Virtual student were included in the numbers, Justin clarified this request was for in-person learning only.

Special Request: Due to shortened class time, this request presented to extend pilot with the option to purchase additional copies if proven success at the end of 2021-22 school year.

Motion of support by Kim Locher. Seconded by Anna Schunot. Motion carried.

Stage I Request: To purchase additional copies of books of what they were able to pilot.

Motion of support by Rachel Kenney. Seconded by Melanie Brock. Motion carried.

World Affairs – Nick Popadich (\$4,154)

Due to the nature of this class, no textbook is available and consumables become the best resource. Requesting funding for **Upfront Magazine** (Scholastic) for grades 9-12, based on a 7-year cycle (60 copies per year -- 2 sets of 30 for each campus – HS East & HS West). Point was brought up that the reason we utilize Scholastic is it remains neutral in regards to politics.

Motion of support by Rachel Kenney. Seconded by Amy Williams. Motion carried.

World History – Steve Dunk (\$74,360)

Seeking funds for TCI Subscription renewal for 7-year license. In the past Pearson World History was highlighted, but they have been sold off and are not very student user-friendly, as well as more costly. TCI is rolling out a version that teachers will have access to that will have the ability to adjust text for students reading at a lower level. Also, TCI keeps the same platform as the rest of the SS Dept. (core classes). This is for a digital license, hardcopy textbooks they have on hand will continue to be used.

Motion of support by Gary Smith. Seconded by Neely Thompson. Motion carried.

Elementary Handwriting – Jenna Houser (\$2,024)

Aimee Torok presented for Jenna Houser. Staying with Zaner-Bloser after surveying K-5 teachers. Seeking funds to replace Teacher Editions that have been lost as well as funding for ABC posters (K-2) for shared reading/writing to show letter formation.

Motion of support by Melanie Brock. Seconded by Amy Williams. Motion carried.

Elementary Keyboarding – Jenna Houser (\$0)

Aimee Torok presented for Jenna Houser. Technology teachers piloted quite a few resources, also reinforced in the classroom (Grades 1-5). Would like to continue with *Typing.com*, currently no cost unless the company starts charging. Technology has approved the resource. There is concern since we are using this resource for free, that the company could start charging. Allyson indicated there have been studies that have had to come back as an emergency case, which would be the situation here, if that were to happen. Even if it's past their time for study and the resource they have used is gone, then they could come back and do a special request for additional funds.

Motion of support by Maria Peters. Seconded by Rachel Kenney. Motion carried.

US History – Todd Babiasz (\$74,360)

Requesting funds for a 7-year site license with TCI, very similar request as World History. They will keep all current textbooks. The online version allows access to all updates.

Motion of support by Gary Smith. Seconded by Corey Stawicki. Motion carried.

III. SPECIAL REQUESTS

LEAD PBL Funding – Todd Babiasz (\$8,400)

Two requests. First request is skipping the pilot for the 2020-21 LEAD class – the current textbook, layout and support materials are great. Secondly, requesting “seed money” for LEAD PBL course, centered around what projects the students choose to do. Projects are all community based. Requesting \$8,400 – which equals out to \$100 per group for the next 7 years.

Motion of support by Barb Bailey. Seconded by Gary Smith. Motion carried.

AP Physics – Matt Hugo (\$5,400 – 6-year / \$2248 – 1-year)

Timing issue with studies, Matt is asking for either a 6-year site license (\$5,400) or 1-year site license (\$2248). Lori Taylor has noticed the cost of licensing (common that 1 year site license is more expensive). She feels that the 6-year option makes more sense financially; but, doesn't line up with our 7-year cycle. Allyson has a concern that going forward with the 6-year license will get Matt into the same problem in 6 years. She feels it might make more sense to look into changing cycle years – a conversation for another time. Matt said that ultimately purchasing 3 1-year licenses and 1 6-year license would carry through to the end of the next cycle, but would end up costing more than 2 6-year licenses. Matt feels this will come up again & again with online only offering 6-year licenses which do not line up with our current 7-year cycle. Question was asked about updates being included with the 6-year license and it was confirmed that updates are automatic. Motion made to approve work, but table the decision on site license (6-yr. vs. 1-yr.) until we know what the budget will be for next year.

Solution 1: \$5,400 – 6-year site license

Solution 2: \$2,249 – 1-year site license

Motion of support by Diana Balbaugh. Seconded by Corey Stawicki. Motion carried.

Stage I K-5 Writing Study – Jenna Houser (\$15,240)

Aimee Torok presented special request for Jenna Houser. This request is 2 parts:

- **Part 1: K-5 Writing Study** – Proposing they push back writing 3 years to match the reading study. Current research shows this would be the best approach.
Motion of support by Melanie Brock. Seconded by Neely Thompson. Motion carried.
- **Part 2: Writable (\$15,240)** – Asking for funding for 4th grade student **Writable** licenses. Special request because they delayed pilot and pushing everything back to fit with reading. After piloting this resource this year, felt that it was essential to fill that gap for when they would have gone into the study and purchase things and when they are actually going to be able to come in 3 years with the ready study.
Motion of support by Sonya James. Seconded by Anna Schunot. Motion carried.

Young 5's Stage II Extension – Doris Goetz

This year four classrooms across the district piloted a Young 5's Montessori model. Four sets of materials were purchased, but supplies were limited due to Covid. Requesting extension of Stage II into next year hoping to have a hands-on model, in addition 2 days of training in August to re-cap what was learned. Amber Hall indicated this could be funded through Title II, not asking for additional funding at this time. Looking to do a more extensive pilot next year and then come back to ACC with recommendations for the district for Young 5's at the end of next school year.

Motion of support by Amy Williams. Seconded Sonya James. Motion carried.

IV. BUDGET

Allyson presented the budget and there were no questions. The meeting adjourned at 4:39pm. The next meeting is to be determined based on findings for next year's ACC budget.

Respectfully submitted

Allyson Walroth, Curriculum Director

Lynda McDougall, Recorder