

# Curriculum Committee Minutes

February 12, 2018

5:30 pm

**Members Present:** Nancy Justman, Tim Stellmacher

**Others Present:** Susan Saric, Jennifer Marten, Jennifer Gennerman, John Esser Dave Uelmen, Curtis Marquardt, Denise Lyneis, Sara Fleischman, Kris Meffert, Joel Soden, Mary Damkot, Jason Cicero

Meeting was called to order by Nancy Justman at 5:30 pm.

## Math Update 6-12

John Esser, Math and Science Learning Specialist, along with Math goal team members provided a brief introduction into what the purpose and mission is of the Math Goal team and what has been accomplished to date in Math. This year the highlights of the 6-12 team have been: planning for ongoing professional development for the implementation of CPM resources in grade 6, Algebra and Geometry; making updated recommendations for criteria for accelerated pathways in grades 6-8; studying options and are recommending CPM Algebra 2 to replace the current resources for Advanced Algebra classes; and piloting CPM in grades 7-8 with a recommendation of moving forward with adopting those materials.

CPM (College Preparatory Math) which is a collaborative, problem-based and mixed spaced practice math program is currently being used by the West Bend School District in Grade 6 and Algebra and Geometry classes. Grades 7-8 started the 2017-18 school year piloting CPM. CPM is taught at a group level with the students working to problem solve together. Teachers at Badger are finding improved student engagement and comprehension, along with students meeting or exceeding their growth expectations. Teachers in other subject areas are also seeing increased cooperative learning skills by students in their classes. Badger math teachers are recommending the purchase of the CPM materials they have been piloting this year.

Advanced Algebra started exploring new resources this fall. The resources that are currently being used are outdated and do not align with CPM Algebra and Geometry resources currently being used. Algebra 2 teachers took site visits to Oshkosh where they are using CPM to see it in classrooms. Some of the teachers currently teaching Algebra or Geometry that have been trained in CPM have been using a blended format of CPM and the old materials this year in their Advanced Algebra classes. The CPM program provides additional resources for students and parents of those that need extra practice learning the concepts and interventions are in place for students failing to meet expectations. Increased communication to parents and students regarding these additional resources was suggested. The recommendation of the Algebra 2 teachers is to move forward with replacing the current resources with CPM for the 2018-19 school year.

With the recommendation of CPM for grades 7-8 and Advanced Algebra this would allow for consistency from grade 6 to Advanced Algebra with CPM. The Bridges math program that is currently being used K-5 has the same concepts as CPM making for a smooth transition between levels. This recommendation will be brought to tonight's Board Meeting.

### **Middle School Courses**

During a work session in January the courses taken in middle school for high school credit were reviewed. It was determined that not all high school courses taught at the middle school were identical to the same courses taught at the High School. Some of the classes that earned credit at the middle school did not exist at the high school. After thorough review of the courses offered and the data gathered, it has been decided that only the following courses will be offered for high school credit beginning fall 2018: Health, Algebra I, Geometry, and World Languages (French, German, and Spanish). Students will continue to have the opportunity for advanced/honors classes at the middle school which will help position them for greater success in AP and Honors courses at the high school. Pre- APUS history will be renamed 8<sup>th</sup> grade honors Social Studies and Honors ELA will be offered in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Additionally, Business Leadership will still be offered as a middle school course, but high school credit will not be given.

Jason Cicero has proposed the new course of Beginning Guitar which would be offered to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders every other day. In this course students will learn how to play guitar with standard playing technique. Students will learn to read standard music notation and “tablature,” to fret and strum common open chords, and to perform in real-world applications, such as accompanying singers and other instruments, and performing solo guitar music. There are currently 37 guitars at Badger that are not being used, the only costs would be student consumable books, guitar strings/ repairs. (Estimated yearly cost of \$500). This course will be brought to a future Board meeting for approval.

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm.