



# Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting

## Meeting Minutes

*Administraion Building*  
*Assistant Superintendent's Office*  
*233 1st Ave E*  
*KalisPELL, MT 59901*  
*8/13/2015*

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

**Minute:** Members Present: Chair Mary Ruby, Don Murray, Bette Albright

Members Absent: Jeremy Reed

Others Present: Superintendent Mark Flatau, Assistant Superintendent Andrea Johnson, IT Director Rich Lawrence, Beth Kornick

### 2. Professional Development for 2015-16 School Year

**Minute:** Assistant Superintendent and Curriculum Director Andrea Johnson introduced the first item on the Agenda, Professional Development for 2015-16 School Year.

#### a. New Teacher Induction and Mentoring Summary

**Minute:** Assistant Superintendent Andrea Johnson told the committee about the New Teacher Induction and Mentoring Summary as presented. Johnson explained the color denotations of the chart.

- **Pink - 1st Year Teachers**
- **Orange - 2nd Year Teachers**
- **Yellow - 3rd Year Teachers**
- **Green - New recruits that have not gone through training**

The New Teacher Center is a Professional Development consortium that has provided the training in and around the Mentor program. The structure is to help them be better classroom teachers using the four domains and the evaluation and Charlotte Danielson and trying to bring coherence throughout. This is funded by a grant through Applied Materials. Superintendent Flatau invited the Board to sit in on any of the sessions.

#### b. Updated Information on District Professional Development

**Minute:**

Assistant Superintendent Andrea Johnson gave the committee the Professional Development calendar, as presented, adding that it is up to date as of August 11th.

Johnson and Superintendent Flatau attended a recent Professional Development program offered through Eliza Thomas-Sorte at the NW Montana Educational Coop called "Box Cars and One Eyed Jacks". The program contained a whole slew of topics for Administrators.

Trustee Murray asked Flatau and Johnson to give their take on the District's Professional Development program as newer administrators in the District.

Flatau stated that the PIR is impressive in the way it's structured. Regionally based Partner Districts have equal opportunity across the Board. He would like to look at having some sort of staff survey to determine if we are meeting the needs of staff. Our Professional Development is focused, it used to be one size fits all, providing flexibility and variety is important.

Johnson stated that sites are able to customize their Professional Development citing that GHS and FHS are doing different things. Our Professional Development is very systemic versus bringing someone in and trying to figure out how to implement their program. She would like to see us focus on really getting into the classroom and having a dialogue about what engagement and rigor look like?

Flatau added that these classroom visits would not be evaluations of the teacher but an observation and a dialogue

### ACCOMODATIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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about "what I saw versus what you saw" so that we have a sense of what good instruction looks like.

Flatau, Johnson, and FHS Principal Fusaro attended an Administrators Retreat at the end of July. The keynote speaker was 2013 MT. Teacher of the Year Paul Anderson who spoke about "How do we take it to the next level?". Trustee Murray asked how the Instructional Coaches fit into Professional Development. The answer is that they are an integral part of K-5 on Literacy and Mathematics. The coaches pick up implementing, support teachers, guide on PLC, data analytics and offering help. They meet one time after school and one time during the school day per month. The coaches are like a nurturing guide versus the evaluation of a principal. The teachers can actually watch the coaches teach a lesson onsite with the kids and the curriculum. This raised everybody's level of teaching and provides an extra set of eyes and ears in the classroom. The coach doesn't replace leadership from a principal or from the district but helps day to day instruction in the classroom.

Trustee Albright asked if the district was thinking of adding more coaches? Flatau stated that it was a possibility down the line and that could be in the form of a math specialist adding that math has not had the same intensity of focus as literacy. The district has a new focus on reducing the number of concepts: fewer with greater depth. Teachers have been looking a lot at the workshop model in literacy and taking it into math.

### **3. State MontCAS scores for Science at grades 4,8, and 10**

#### **Minute:**

Assistant Superintendent Andrea Johnson outlined the State MontCAS scores as presented. The MontCAS is a comprehensive assessment system/Criterion Reference Test (CRT) that is based on the Montana State Standards. The Smarter Balance results are still to come. Smarter Balanced has replaced CRT except in science.

### **4. Board Curriculum Meeting Focus for 2015-16**

#### **a. Brainstorm Committee's needs for 15-16 School Year**

#### **Minute:**

Assistant Superintendent Johnson asked what is meaningful and relevant for this committee?

Superintendent Flatau suggested possibly involving a principal or two as a building focus for that particular meeting, underlining the curriculum and instructional challenges at that building. The committee agreed.

IT Director Rich Lawrence would like to see showcase some technology integration into the meeting with the idea of bringing in teachers to talk about what they are doing with technology and how we can do it better. Flatau added that from a board perspective we can look at curriculum and instruction and ways technology can impact teaching and learning. Johnson added that it would be good to talk about how we are measuring the impact of technology on curriculum and how are we teaching it.

Trustee Murray brought up the tension between public education and vocational education: how do we make sure kids are ready to step into the job market without sacrificing civics/arts, etc.?

It was also suggested that a presentation on Encore classes at KMS would be good.

Johnson asked if the committee has looked at the Ag Center or Carl Perkins?

Trustee Ruby suggested a look at online classes.

Flatau stated that he had met with Mr. Fusaro and the staff at the VoAg and talked about the needs and possible expansion of curriculum. One avenue they would like to pursue is veterinary science. He added that he has suggested to the high schools that an administrator attend one partner district board meeting per year to update that district. Trustee Ruby added that the high school board representatives should be representing the district at their partner district meetings.

Flatau suggested that we revisit this at the work session with all board members.

The committee was asked to look carefully at the calendar of topics and get back to Andrea with suggestions.

### **5. Future Meeting Times**

#### **Minute:**

Future Curriculum Committee meetings will include presentations on AP, IB, and PLTW.

The meeting on September 3rd was moved to 3:00 pm.

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