

EDUCATION/POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, March 1, 2021

5:30 P.M.

NLSD Media YouTube Channel

Committee Members				Remaining Meeting Dates
x	Gale Husack - Chairperson	x	Jennifer Butz	Tuesday, April 6, 2021
x	Michele Martineau. - Co-Chair	x	David Hauser	Monday, May 3, 2021 Monday, June 7, 2021
x	Michelle Heckman	x	Eric Hill	Monday, August 2, 2021 Tuesday, September 7, 2021
x	Robert Keegan, Jr.	x	Gene Marks	Monday, October 4, 2021 Monday, November 1, 2021
x	Robert Kern, Jr.	x	Scott Pyne	
x	Matt Link		James Schnyderite	
x	Tania Stoker		Robert Vlasaty	
x	Jill Chamberlain		Tim Weaver	
x	Michele Dotta			

Also in attendance: Gary Fedorcha, Matt Green, Sherri Molitoris

***** This committee meeting is being recorded. The recording will be posted on YouTube*****

MINUTES

EDUCATION

- High School Program of Studies and Changes (Dr. Stoker)
 - Dr. Stoker presented the High School Program of Studies
 - Changes were highlighted in yellow
 - Mr. Hauser presented the changes to the committee.
 - Page 7 - Added a description of Act 136 of 2020 regarding the pandemic related Keystone Exams. PDE outlined a new pathways to graduation plan.
 - Pages 26-28 - Arts Department - Removing the course Graphic Arts and replacing with two (2) new courses, Digital Arts and Photography I & II.

- ❑ Mrs. Husack asked if any of the courses are similar to what LCTI would be promoting. Is there a shared resource we can use for some of those? How many students are in these classes? What are the options out there?
 - ❑ Mr. Hauser commented that there are some offerings that are similar to LCTI and LCCC. There is some overlap, but there are differences that make the courses unique to be stand alone courses. These courses were designed with looking at the enrollment in the Graphic Arts classes and asking students why enrollment was down and what could be done to increase it. The photography element came back as hugely popular amongst the students. This course could lead to a possible career choice for students.
 - ❑ Mrs. Husack commented that it's important to use all the resources available and provide the students as many options as we can.
 - ❑ Dr. Stoker commented that there is one additional course, the Yearbook course. The Yearbook course was typically offered in the Arts department, but is moving to the English department because of staffing changes and where it may fit for next year.
 - ❑ Board Committee Members made the recommendation to add the HS Program of Studies to the board agenda on 3/8/21 for consideration..
- ❑ 2021-2022 School Calendar - Draft (Mr. Link)
 - ❑ Mr. Link shared the draft of the 2021-2022 School Calendar with the committee.
 - ❑ The first student day would be August 30, 2021. Teacher In-Service would be on August 24, 25, & 26, 2021. The week prior would be new teacher orientation on August 18, 19, & 20, 2021.
 - ❑ Proposing to add traditional snow make-up days on to the end of the school year, similar to this year's calendar. If used, the last student day would be June 15, 2022.
 - ❑ Flex days are again built in for staff who can accumulate professional development hours. Flex days would be November 24, 2021, December 23, 2021, and June 16, 2022.
 - ❑ Mrs. Martineau asked if the extra days are not used at the end, where is graduation? Mr. Link commented that the graduation decision is usually made early April to mid April. Mr. Link is hopeful that graduation does not have to be broken into two (2) sections like last year. It's too early to lock-in a date and to tell if we'll be able to have everyone in the stadium with whatever requirements are still in place. The Governor just lifted the

travel restrictions today and also adjusted indoor and outside occupancy limits slightly.

- ❑ Mr. Kern commented that we're looking at traditional snow days, but with all the technology and all the training of staff, we could do what we've been doing with digital learning and virtual learning on an inclement weather day. Mr. Link commented that he agreed with Mr. Kern but we'll need to wait to see when PDE puts out their Flexible Instruction Days (FID) application and we'll need to review that as well.
- ❑ Mr. Weaber asked about the order in which snow days are used. Is there any discussions or changes to the order? We did not use the Presidents' Day weekend as a make-up this year but that wasn't the order. Mr. Link commented that next year Presidents' Day holiday is the 18th to the 21st. It would be a Friday/Monday combination again. And, one of the reasons why is it aligns with all the sending districts and LCTI so we wouldn't be short-changing the students attending LCTI. We want to make sure our students get their hours they need towards their certifications they are working towards.
- ❑ Board Committee Members made the recommendation to add the draft of the 2021-2022 School Calendar to the board agenda on 3/8/21 for consideration.
- ❑ The meeting closed at 5:48 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.