

DRAFT PENDING COMMITTEE APPROVAL  
BOARD EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
March 5, 2018

Tredyffrin/Easttown Administrative Offices  
6:30 p.m.

**Attending all or part of the meeting:**

**Board Committee Members:** Roberta Hotinski (chair), Kyle Boyer, Katharine Murphy, Tina Whitlow

**Other Board Members:** Michele Burger, Scott Dorsey, Heather Ward

**TE School District Representatives:** Wendy Towle (Administrative Liaison), Michele Staves, Nancy Adams, Chris Groppe, Richard Gusick, Nicole Roy, Kate Parker

**Community Members:** Ray Clarke, Sarah Culbert, Jerry Henige, Cheryl Lowery, Jamie Lynch, Kate Mayer, Wendy DiMarco, Sarah Henry, Jessica Schneck, Nicole Brigham, Stephanie Tanner, Ellen Galka, Susan McGowan, Karen Huang, Jessica Tinneney, Marine Havel, Wendy Brooks, Lori Peterson, Giulia Ghibellini

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

**Public Comment:**

Jessica Tinneney commented on the **Special Education Report**.

Kate Mayer commented on the **Special Education Report**.

Wendy Brooks commented on the **Special Education Report**.

Lori Peterson commented on the **Special Education Report**.

Giulia Ghibellini commented on the **Special Education Report**.

Susan McGowan commented on the **Special Education Report**.

Ray Clarke commented on the **Special Education Report**.

Cheryl Lowery commented on the **Special Education Report**.

Wendy DiMarco commented on the **Special Education Report**.

Jessica Schneck commented on the **Special Education Report**.

Kate Mayer commented on **Reading Support Programs in TESD**.

Lori Peterson commented on **Reading Support Programs in TESD**.

Susan McGowan commented on the **Reading Support Program in TESD**.

Ellen Galka commented on the **Reading Support Program in TESD**.

Lori Peterson commented on the **Reading Support Program in TESD**.

Ray Clarke commented on the **Reading Support Program in TESD**.

Ray Clarke commented on the **Business Curriculum**.

Karen Huang commented on the **Business Curriculum**.

Marine Havel commented on school start times.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The February 5, 2018 minutes were approved.

## **Committee Discussion and Recommendations:**

The Committee received the **Special Education Report** from Chris Groppe, Director of Individualized Student Services. Mr. Groppe updated the Committee on the District's continuum of student services, multi-tiered intervention, student health services, psychological services, mental health supports, numbers of special education students and caseload limits, staffing, budget impact items, and points of pride. He shared selected results from the 2017 parent survey on special education that is part of the state's cyclical monitoring process. Mr. Groppe answered several questions from community and Committee members.

The Committee reviewed **Reading Support Programs in TESD**. Michele Staves, Curriculum Supervisor of Language Arts updated the Committee on the District's reading support program from K-12. She presented an overview of the balanced literacy approach which includes Houghton Mifflin's *Literacy by Design* program in grades K-4. She further described the supplemental reading support program provided by reading specialists and paraprofessionals. The pre-referral service is available to eligible students in grade K-6 who need individualized and targeted instruction in any of the key components of reading. Programs and courses for students in grades 7-12 are also in place to support students with reading needs at those levels. Mrs. Staves stated that most students who receive early reading intervention in TESD make progress toward exiting the program by fifth grade. Dr. Wendy Towle and Mrs. Staves answered questions from the Committee members and the community. The Committee requested additional data on the diversity of students in reading support programs, which the administration will gather and provide. The Committee requested additional data on the diversity of students in reading support programs, which the administration will gather and provide to the Committee members, and a process for addressing additional questions was discussed.

The Committee reviewed the **Business Curriculum**. Dr. Nancy Adams, Curriculum Supervisor for Business/Technology updated the Committee on the Business curriculum at Conestoga High School. Dr. Adams shared an overview of the current courses offered. She then shared data collected on other high school and college offerings which led to the development of a new Business course for 2018-19 called *Business Promotion and Marketing*. Dr. Adams answered questions from the community and Committee members. The Committee expressed support for ongoing changes in the Business curriculum to meet the changing needs of the students and the community.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Next meeting: **April 2, 2018**