

DRAFT PENDING COMMITTEE APPROVAL
BOARD EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
September 14, 2016

Tredyffrin/Easttown Administrative Offices
1:00 p.m.

Attending all or part of the meeting:

Board Committee Members: Scott Dorsey (Chair), Kevin Buraks, Roberta Hotinski, Katharine Murphy

Other Board Members: Michele Burger, Virginia Lastner

TE School District Representatives: Wendy Towle (Administrative Liaison), Nancy Adams, Mark Cataldi, Patrick Gately, Richard Gusick, Mike Szymendera

Community Members: Amy Alvarez, Doug Anestad, Shannon Choe, Kang Chu, Nancy Coradi, Sarah Culbert, Sam Elsen, Jerry Henige, Colleen Hillman, Beth Hixson, Cheryl Lowery, Jamie Lynch, Jennifer Marsala, Cinda Marturano, Patrick McHugh, Jill Semmer, Yuanqing Yu, Karen Vadner

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m.

Public Comment:

Doug Anestad commented on District goals.

Karen Vadner commented on school start time.

Kang Chu commented on the **Testing Update**.
Nancy Coradi commented on the **Testing Update**.
Colleen Hillman commented on the **Testing Update**.
Jennifer Marsala commented on the **Testing Update**.
Yuanqing Yu commented on the **Testing Update**.
Jamie Lynch commented on the **Testing Update**.
Jill Semmer commented on the **Testing Update**.
Kang Chu commented on the **Testing Update**.
Shannon Choe commented on the **Testing Update**.

Doug Anestad commented on **Computer Science and Math/Science Credit**.
Jennifer Marsala commented on **Computer Science and Math/Science Credit**.
Cinda Marturano commented on **Computer Science and Math/Science Credit**.

Amy Alvarez commented on the **2017-2018 School Calendar**.
Sam Elsen commented on the **2017-2018 School Calendar**.
Cinda Marturano commented on the **2017-2018 School Calendar**.
Yuanqing Yu commented on the **2017-2018 School Calendar**.
Kang Chu commented on the **2017-2018 School Calendar**.
Nancy Coradi commented on the **2017-2018 School Calendar**.
Jennifer Marsala commented on the **2017-2018 School Calendar**.
Doug Anestad commented on the **2017-2018 School Calendar**.

Jill Semmer commented on the **2017-2018 School Calendar**.
Karen Vadner commented on the **2017-2018 School Calendar**.

Jill Semmer commented on the **1:1 Technology Initiative Update**.
Yuanqing Yu commented on the **1:1 Technology Initiative Update**.
Doug Anestad commented on the **1:1 Technology Initiative Update**.

Patrick McHugh commented on the elementary World Language program.

Approval of Minutes:

The May 11, 2016 were approved.

Committee Discussion and Recommendations:

The Committee received a **Testing Update** from Mr. Cataldi, Director of Assessment and Accountability, including 2016 PSSA, Keystone Exam and AP Test results. District results were presented in comparison to state results, and District students continue to perform exceptionally well on each of these standardized assessments. Mr. Cataldi addressed several questions from Committee and community members. Mr. Cataldi explained that, following Committee recommendation for the 2016-2017 school year, the District provides opt-in additional learning opportunities for elementary and middle school students who do not achieve proficiency on the PSSA English language arts and/or math, as the state has removed the mandate for these additional learning opportunities. As has always been the practice, student needs in language arts and math will also continue to be addressed through core classroom instruction. The Committee suggested a review of the impact of the previously required additional learning opportunities from the 2015-2016 school year, following the new PSSA first administered in spring, 2015.

The Committee received a report on **Computer Science and Math/Science Credit** from Dr. Towle, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, Staff Development, and Planning, and Dr. Adams, Supervisor of Math, Science, Music, Business/Tech Ed and Staff Development. Dr. Towle and Dr. Adams explained Pennsylvania House Bill 833 and its potential impact on math and science credits on student transcripts at Conestoga High School. According to House Bill 833, beginning with students graduating from Conestoga High School at the end of the 2016-2017 school year, and continuing in each year thereafter, a student who successfully completes a course in computer science or information technology during grades nine through twelve shall be permitted to apply up to one credit earned for successful completion of such course to satisfy the student's mathematics or science credit requirement for graduation. Dr. Towle and Dr. Adams addressed several questions from Committee and community members. Because the District is waiting for clarification from PDE, the Committee recommended the District move forward to Policy Committee in order to facilitate the timeliness of any necessary changes to District policy regarding graduation requirements.

The Committee reviewed a draft of the **2017-2018 School Calendar**. The Committee suggested the possibility of moving the instructional staff inservice day from Monday, April 2, immediately following spring break, to Friday, February 16, prior to Presidents' Day weekend. The Committee also suggested that the rescheduled student days for use in the event of emergency closings be shifted so that Day 5 would become June 15, Day 6 would become February 16, and Day 7 would become February 19, with the rest of the rescheduled student days remaining the same as on the draft schedule. The Committee recommended that a representative of the T/E

Education Association share these suggestions with teachers. The Committee recommended further discussion of the 2017-2018 School Calendar be held at the October 19 meeting.

The Committee received an update on the **1:1 Technology Initiative** from Dr. Szymendera, Director of Instructional Technology. Dr. Szymendera highlighted the successful rollout of laptops for all students in grades 9 and 10 to begin the 2016-2017 school year, as well as the successful implementation of Schoology, the District's new learning management system. Dr. Szymendera addressed several questions from Committee and community members.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Next meeting: **October 19, 2016**