

Curriculum Sub-committee Report

March 17, 2008

1. The Committee of Ten all agree that the purpose of the proposed consolidation is primarily to improve the curriculum offerings for the children of both districts. We had wanted to have the curriculum guide the placement of students in the facilities, but decided we would have to work with the choices we were given.
2. We did conduct surveys of teachers and students regarding courses they would like to see added or deleted. The results have been compiled.
3. The committee thought it would be beneficial to “recruit” teachers to our committee because we need their input on curriculum and to try to get them to take some ownership of the consolidation and get their buy-in. We met with faculty from all 5 schools together last Monday, March 10th at AHS Auditorium and again going to the individual schools (Westmer Elem tom) to get any ideas and input they might have and to recruit them to join the Curriculum sub-committee.
4. Next week, the entire Committee will meet and break out into sub-groups (PreK-4th, 5-8th, and 9-12th) to come together and develop their recommendations for their grade levels as well as ideas on how to transition the kids. A COT member will chair each sub-group. The HS group will most likely break-out into their individual disciplines.
5. We also met with the two guidance counselors on March 13th to address the space issue at AHS if 9th-12th is housed there. They both agreed strongly that all of the students would fit with room to spare. All of the combined course offerings could be scheduled as well. The cafeteria could hold the students without relocating the kitchen if there were 3 lunch periods (which has been done in the past); there is room for more lockers. They suggested maybe offering some “early bird” classes to help with scheduling issues. There is enough space for Ag and Vocational classes and equipment could be brought over from Joy if desired. There is enough parking. They did state that “team teaching” might be employed if there were no personnel cuts. They did not feel that Honors or AP courses were feasible.
Also there is a room with 10 “stations” for teachers with desks/locked drawers which could be used by teachers when their regular room is being used by a different teacher. Therefore, the teachers would each have a place to put their things and work.
May need more storage space.
CNA program coming, room to expand dual credit courses with Blackhawk
6. Alan has brought up an idea to form a Curriculum Council with representatives for each of 9 disciplines from K-12th grade to work on curriculum continuity.
7. We have not discussed Personnel yet. It was noted that the Finance Sub-committee has budgeted to keep all teaching positions.

Submitted by Kristin Wurzbarger
Committee of Ten Curriculum Committee