

Bloomsburg Area School District

March 14, 2024 | Policy & Academic Affairs Committee Meeting

Call to Order: 5:34pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Panel Attendees:

Jonathan Cleaver, Marianne Kreisher, Jonathan Jones, Amanda Orzolek, Amy Melchiorre, Michelle Prybyla

Public Comment Related to Agenda Items: None

Old Business:

Policy for Bathroom Use

- Research on the law and discussions with our solicitor about the direction we should go with a policy has continued to be happening
- Sample policies from other Pennsylvania schools are being looked into
- PSBA does not provide direction with this
- *Action Item:* Next meeting a sample policy will be presented for discussion

New Business:

718 Service Animals in Schools

- *Action Item:* There will be an upcoming need for a student and we will review our policy in detail prior to the next meeting to see if any changes need to be made

Scheduling/Program of Studies

- Personal Finance/Financial Literacy will be state required in 2026-2027
- Continuing to work on cleaning up and changing course descriptions, weights and prerequisites
- Exploring options for the transition from middle school to high school showcasing the options for electives so the students know what is offered

- Grant was submitted today and if we receive any award money we can put it towards future technology needs that may happen if we bring on a technical education teacher
- Exploring options for Keystone Remediation courses
- Working on creating opportunities for additional electives for students. Trying to find ways to bring programs back into the school and away from online. Focus is currently on business program electives
- Looking at trying to create more clubs such as a potential for a Fiber Arts Club and/or Digital Electronics/Marketing Club
- Language options currently include French & Spanish with French class numbers low. Looking to explore options on online/virtual opportunities to explore other languages. Two languages must be offered.
- AP Courses - looking to expand opportunities for our honors & AP students and potentially changing course credits and creating electives within departments.

Career and Technical Education Policy

- Michelle presented the results of the first Pennsylvania Department of Education program evaluation of the CTE programs. The next evaluation will take place in two years
 - Noteworthy results of the evaluations include:
 - There are a few new standards to work within the current CTE programs and lesson plans will need to be updated
 - Dr. Boyle will begin inviting CTE teachers of any student with an IEP to future meetings
 - Occupational objective forms need to be filled out at the start of each school year for students taking CTE courses
 - Occupational advisors lists are now uploaded for each of the programs
 - Follow-up studies need to be worked into our program to check-in with students post-graduation. Surveys need done to evaluate the effectiveness of our curriculum
 - Provide student career plans and as new data is created in the future use it to eventually follow our students from K-12
 - CTE students need to provide documentation of being employed and have 15 hours a week with pay within their program to receive funding for our co-op program

Grading Scale & Honor Roll Requirements

- More discussion was had on our grading scale and honor roll requirements. All members present felt that a change back to the old scale would be beneficial to the students.
- Michelle noted that 95% is the National Honor Society Standard
- Amy noted that changing the failing grade to a 65% would help those students who are failing to have more motivation to bring their grades up as well
- *Action Item:* Amy will start to have discussions with the teachers to gain their insight on the potential change.

Other Items for the Good of the Order

Physical Education Flexibility:

- Discussion was had on having more flexibility for Physical Education Classes for those students that need to leave to attend PIAA sports activities
- *Action Item:* Will reach out to Dan Yarnell regarding the PE teachers and their flexibility options

Adjournment of Meeting: 6:58 pm

Motion: Jonathan Jones

Second: Amanda Orzolek

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 3rd at 5:30pm via ZOOM