SHERMAN BOARD OF EDUCATION CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2019 THE SHERMAN SCHOOL - LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Vision Statement

We enable all Sherman Students to become the best possible version of themselves. We provide an environment where our children develop into empathetic, self-directed, critical thinkers who don't give up when faced with challenges.

A Curriculum Committee Meeting of the Sherman Board of Education was called to order by Mrs. Enright at 5:00 PM on April 3, 2019.

1. PRESENT:

For the Board: Mrs. Enright, Mrs. Lenihan, Mr. Laughlin and Mr. Neunzig

Administration: Dr. Melendez and Mrs. Snowden

Staff: Mrs. Rianhard

2. DISCUSSED:

Discussion took place regarding purchase of pre-written Math Curriculum from EdAdvance. Mrs. Snowden and Mrs. Rianhard discussed their due-diligence involved in evaluation of this curriculum, including discussion with individuals from EdAdvance. Mrs. Enright asked of other districts using this curriculum and in effort to understand and compare to other Math curriculum. Mrs. Lenihan stated that this curriculum is a good start. All agreed that this was a good start to curriculum but that it would need to be vigorously evaluated as this is a curriculum that has not been widely used as of yet and one that EdAdvance created based on perceived future need for districts to utilize.

Mrs. Enright stressed the importance of middle school Math and that both sections of Math be seamless and fluent in Big Ideas. It was noted that curriculum writing will occur over the summer math and other areas.

Review of transition to high school data in all three high schools took place. Mrs. Enright noted that there were bright spots, but that based on data, there were greater weaknesses in transition to students to New Fairfield in all subjects. Mrs. Enright also noted that New Fairfield students have it difficult in transition due to rolling grades so how students do perform first quarter of freshman year can affect entire year. Mrs. Enright noted the inherent challenges to the Sherman School in transitioning to three different high schools and how this affects smooth transition and variety in curricula among the three schools. Mrs. Enright stated the importance and continued need for communication with the three schools and department heads in each subject area.

Mrs. Enright stated she would like to see administration hold formal discussions with parents of students who have transitioned to the three different high schools.

Mrs. Enright also noted PSAT scores and need for improvement as scores below 1100 will make it more challenging for college acceptance and that this fact needs to be communicated to Sherman school community. Mrs. Enright led a discussion regarding communicating to Sherman school parents the importance of math placement in seventh and eighth grade and how this will affect student ability to perform on SATs, as Algebra 2 concepts are heavily reflected in SATs.

3. ADJOURNED

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Themis Enright
Chair, Curriculum Committee