

Curriculum Advisory Sub-Committee on World Language
Meeting Summary November 6, 2008 6:00-7:15PM SLEC IMC
Convened by Ro Anne Elliott Minutes recorded by Jess Mallon

6:05 PM

Welcome, Purpose and Introductions – Ro Anne see Sign-In Sheet

Present: Katrina Edenfeld (TL), Roxanne Eggen (TL), Lisa Vervena(TL/CH), Kirsten Lunzer (IL), John Hakes (IL), Jennifer Hakes (IL), Bill Nara (IL), Sally Lawless (TL), Karen Seevers (ID), Lisa Ueki (IL), Cindy Garretson (VH), Laura Frink (IL), Michelle Gardner (IL), Teri Nelson (TL), Orhan Soykan (TL), Wendy Marty (SS/EW), Sonya Wilson (TL), Staff: Ruth Tharaldson, Tina Tanner, Jess Mallon, Julie Wikelius, Todd Durand, Sheila Eller, Penny Howard, RoAnne Elliott

Overview

- Announcements about the following meetings:
 - Up-coming site meetings on the World Language topic
 - School Board November 18
 - CAC meeting December 1
 - CAC WL Sub-Committee meeting January 12

- Each participant received a folder of handouts: (parents encouraged to go to website for additional information)
 - Agenda
 - CAC Information sheet
 - Decision Making Graphic
 - Elementary and Middle school scheduling proposals

- Review of information about CAC and invitation to join the committee

- Ro Anne addressed a question about the Shoreview Press Article about board’s plan to implement a program—sounds like a “done deal”. The board has input that indicates high degree of community interest in having world language program in elementary and middle school. The board plans to address that concern. The role of this group, teachers, administrators, and other stakeholders is to provide input on how it should look.

- She discussed the decision making framework that is used in the district and explained role of CAC in the flow of communication, input, info gathering/processing and other work, that is needed for decision making by the board.

- Review of the elementary schools proposals.

- Tina Tanner explained a bar graph. from the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) indicating how much proficiency students can gain depending on the number of years the language is studied.
- Overview of the “Revamping Unit Studies” sheet addressing time for social studies and science in the elementary school.
- Possible staffing concerns for offering Chinese in the high schools. Not impossible, but a challenge
- Request for feedback about Latin
- Terri Nelson reported about a Community Education proposal to be further developed: An afterschool program would be coordinated with the school-day language offering and provide opportunities at each school for K-3 students to begin learning the same language in the afterschool program. Other languages could be offered in evenings and Saturday. Teri addressed questions about how the community education program might affect how the day school program is taught.

6:35 PM

Breakout Discussion Groups

Principals Julie Wikelius, Penny Howard, Todd Durand, and Sheila Eller facilitated the discussion groups.

7:10 PM

- Groups report out reactions, questions, ideas and suggestions—See Discussion Group Comments

Key Messages:

- A comprehensive program for students will be maintained.
- Student learning is the key consideration in all program options.
- A curriculum process is in place to ensure continuous review and improvement in all areas—WL will be subject to this same process.
- No formal recommendations regarding WL have been made or acted upon to date.
- Opportunities for parent input will be available at each site.
- WL will continue to be discussed in CAC meetings.