

**UPPER PERKIOMEN SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Education Center**  
**2229 E. Buck Road Pennsburg, PA 18073**  
**Curriculum and Instruction Committee Meeting**

January 25, 2021 6:00PM, Via Zoom, Meeting Recorded

**CHAIR:** Dr. Kerry Drake

Ex-Officio: Mrs. Melanie Cunningham, President

**MEMBERS:**

Dana Hipszer, Peg Pennepacker

Superintendent – Dr. Allyn J. Roche

Assistant Superintendent – Dr. Andrea Farina

Director of Curriculum & Instruction – Kimberly Bast

Director of Technology – James Roth

Curriculum Supervisor – Sarah Rothermel

**Agenda & Meeting Notes (in red)**

[Click here for Presentation](#)

**Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95377858699>**

1. Approval of October 2020 Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)  
Meeting called to order 6:05pm. Minutes from October approved.
  
2. Update on Hybrid Program at UPSD
  - a. 1:1 Device and Hybrid Technology Update- Week 2 of Hybrid Learning.  
Teachers and Paraprofessionals- all working hard to meet student needs  
Switched out 6th grade laptops for Chromebooks- no issues; Switched out K iPads for touch screen  
Chromebooks- few bumps- working them out!  
Students VERY happy to return, Teachers happy to have them back  
Manageable number of students on campus daily.  
More practice with tech and routines in building will help with efficiency  
Jim Roth shared pictures of technology in action - UPOLA teacher, K classroom, MS classrooms- going well
  - b. Summer Programming  
We are analyzing our data carefully with an eye on learning loss that we may see with our students. We are making data informed instructional decisions in classrooms now, but realize we will need compensatory summer programming for those who are in need. We are planning to use grant money to support a K-12 summer program. Here are the basic parameters:
    1. ELA and Math only
    2. Benchmark and other data will indicate which students get “invited”- it is an invite only program
    3. It will include transportation for those who need it - all free to families (grant funded)
    4. It will run for 4 weeks (parallel with ESY) during the end of June, beginning of July.
    5. It will be four day a week, ½ day program

*Committee Mission Statement:*

*To support and enable instructional opportunities that engage students at all levels to achieve at their highest potential ensuring success in both academics and in life after graduation; resulting in a district where students want to learn, teachers want to teach, and parents/guardians want to send their children.*

*In order to assist in keeping an accurate record of the proceedings of this meeting, the meeting is being videotaped by the District.*

3. High School Program of Studies- Presented by Dr. Carpenter and Mrs. Bast to be placed on the full board agenda for approval in January. No new classes, few changes, summarized below:
  1. Business courses aligned/combined to match MCCC dual enrollment courses, older ones deleted.
  2. Algebra III not being offered in 21-22 according to pre-determined plan from 19-20.
  3. Smart Futures and Act 339 language added, as we focus on Career and College readiness8th Grade Parent night is scheduled for February 10, 2021, hosted by Dr. Carpenter.
  
4. Review of Curriculum Review Cycle- 2020-2021 and beyond- Mrs. Bast shared the Curriculum Review Cycle created by Dr. Farina's team in 2017. It is on track, however, because of the sheer volume of courses in various subject areas, it is impossible (due to budgetary and personnel constraints) to review ALL K-12 courses in every subject area in the designated year. Slide deck has links to current curriculum writers, those scheduled for next year and the following.
  
5. Class Rank Policy & Procedures- Dr. Farina explained that Class Rank Policy, as well as Graduation Requirement policy were discussed at the Policy meeting, with recommendations to bring the conversation to the Curriculum and Instruction committee. The administration is recommending the discontinuation of class rank at UPSD because we believe it is hurting students in terms of admission to college, and/or opportunities for scholarship. Many districts locally and nationally have discontinued the process since it does more harm than good, and we would like colleges to consider the whole student, and require them to dig deeper into student information rather than a quick judgement based on class rank among many good, high performing students. **We will provide a full board presentation at the February workshop, in order to share the research and plans, so that it can be discussed again at policy in March, and possibly placed on the board agenda for a first read. Tentative plan, to be confirmed.**
  
6. Update on Full Day K Preparation- We ran out of time in the meeting to fully discuss this. Dr. Farina and Mrs. Bast will need to begin Kindergarten registration in March, so need to know if we will offer FDK or HDK. Knowing the budget is the deciding factor, and that isn't approved until June, we are seeking direction from the board. Dr. Drake will follow up with Mrs. Cunningham to discuss when/where to continue the discussion to allow planning to move forward.

**Meeting adjourned at 7pm**

**Date for next meeting: Monday, February 22, 2021 6:00pm**

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## Attachment A

### Notes/Minutes from October 26, 2020

Zoom meeting was recorded and is posted on the website

6. Approval of September 2020 Meeting Minutes (Attachment A) - **Approved**
7. [Future Ready PA Index Presentation](#)
  - i. Measurement used by PDE as a tool to demonstrate progress and growth
  - ii. Data is the same as last year in most categories
  - iii. New data is available in English language proficiency, Regular Attendance, Graduation Rate, and Post-Secondary transition to school, military and work
8. Act 339 Program for Evidence - Smart Futures
  - i. Grades 5-12 Counselors met to identify a better system to collect and keep track of data.
  - ii. Team identified Smart Futures- K-12 program specifically designed to meet the needs of Act 339, may soon have a partnership with PDE (\$4500 cost annually)
  - iii. Ready made, portfolio-based activities for students in 4/ 5 Center, MS and HS to meet Act 339 requirements and help students explore post-academic interests and professions
  - iv. Naviance will remain at the high school level for transcripts, letters of interests, and other needs
  - v. Subcommittee gave permission to add to board agenda for November 12, 2020.
9. Planning for Next Steps- Instructional Model Change - Transition away from Full Virtual
  - i. Working with teachers to prepare them for returning to face to face instruction
  - ii. Tech package presented at 10/22/20 board meeting
  - iii. Will be working with teachers on Wednesday 10/28, 11/4, 11/11, 11/18 to prepare to have students back in the building
10. Federal Programs Update- Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV funding : [Title Funds Presentation](#)
11. Comments & Questions- **None**

**Date for next meeting:** Monday, January 25, 2021 6:00pm