

**RHINEBECK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMPREHENSIVE DISTRICT EDUCATION PLAN (CDEP)
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 12, 2014
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

Members Present

Victor Britton
Jackie Dedrick
Marvin Kreps
Erin O'Brien
Shaun Ramsey

Deirdre Burns
John Kemnitzer
Steve Jensen
Joe Phelan
Susan Van Vlack

Ed Davenport
Brett King
Diane Linenbroker
Cynthia Ping
Richard Zipp

Members Absent

Bobbie Bie

Bonnie Murphy

The meeting began with review of the proposed agenda. The proposed agenda is as follows:

- Welcome and Discussion of Agenda
- General Discussion of Comprehensive District Educational Planning process, product and overall governance structure
- Update of curriculum development projects
- Discussion of Biennial Shared Decision Making and completion of the Biennial Review Report
- Setting meeting date, time, and agenda for next CDEP Meeting

Welcome and Discussion of Agenda

Mr. Kreps opened the meeting by reviewing the proposed agenda and the history of the CDEP process in the Rhinebeck Central School District. An important goal of the meeting is to discuss how to move forward with the Comprehensive District Educational Plan (CDEP).

At the present time, the State Education Department has new regulations and statutes with new outcomes required which need to be addressed in a meaningful way by the CDEP. Being that the District is a collective community of practice and with the induction of new faculty; the context has created a strategic moment to plan how we are going to proceed.

President Burns reported that the Board wants to support ongoing curriculum work and professional development as well as a structure that builds collaboration among educators.

The Committee discussed the current vertical team structure and how it does not seem to meet the planning and governance needs of the District with regard to program evaluation, curriculum, instructional improvement, assessment and professional development. The Committee agreed that while building level planning is essential, having the K-12 perspective is important as well. The main challenge is creating a participatory governance structure that meaningfully addresses the challenges of new policy, regulations and goals in a timely fashion that preserves a tradition of shared decision making.

Mr. Kreps suggested that the District consider a global structure that accommodates both, a specificity to teachers at each grade level as well as the needs at the building level. Mr. Kreps suggested a Curriculum Governance Council be established that acts as a filter of all curriculum demands on the district that is comprised of professional educators who will conduct serious research that is scholarly and academic in nature. The resultant information and insight would then be utilized to guide and focus planning in the K-12 academic program. Ideally, the team would be comprised of approximately 13-15 teachers who represent the K-12 faculty from all important disciplines such as English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Sciences, Science, and other disciplines.

Mr. Kreps suggested that the CDEP structure be changed to having three parts, one plan for each school that is aligned with District Strategic Goals set annually by the CDEP team. The three plans would be integrated into the

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larger CDEP document. The District Comprehensive Plan satisfies many state and federal planning requirements and thus should be preserved as it is submitted to the state each year in support of federal grants. The responsibility of the Governance Council would be an academic focus on K-12 across all disciplines. The team would research and make recommendations for programs as well as develop a strategic plan for curriculum revisions. The Governance Council would act like a local think tank that addresses the vertical needs of the district. Mr. Kreps suggested that school level teams could articulate school level academic and school climate goals that that would be integrated into the comprehensive plan.

The committee agreed that information regarding the proposed CDEP configuration be disseminated out for discussion as soon as possible to give time for stakeholders to digest ideas and give feedback before the next meeting on Thursday, May 8, 2014 from 8:30 am – 11:30 am.

Prior to the next meeting Mr. Kreps will attempt to meet with the professional faculty and principals of each school to obtain feedback on how best to restructure the CDEP process. It is hoped that additional information will be available at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.