



Respectful, Responsible, Safe & Prepared

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 18, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.

Waupaca High School Community Room and [Live Stream](#)

Welcome and Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairperson Molly McDonald at 5:31 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present in the WHS Community Room: All members of the Instructional Committee were present (Chairperson Molly McDonald, Betty Manion, and Bob Adams). Additionally, Board members Steve Klismet, Lori Verhalen, and Ron Brooks were present.

Also Present:

Present in the WHS Community Room: Craig Gerlach, Mark Flaten, Austin Moore, Laurie Schmidt, and Sandy Lucas.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Steve Klismet and seconded by Bob Adams to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Review of Board Meeting Norms:

The Board reviewed their collective commitments.

Change to Waupaca High School Graduation Requirement Due to WI Act 60:

Director of Teaching and Learning Mark Flaten advised that WI Act 60 requires all Wisconsin high school graduates to successfully complete a one semester Personal Financial Literacy (PFL) course beginning with the class of 2028. The District currently provides similar instruction through the required Digital Literacy course, however the new law requires additional components be taught so the graduation requirements have to be updated.

Currently, a PFL course is offered in the Business Department and an Independent Living course is offered in the Family and Consumer Science Department. It was discovered that the goals and some of the resources used in each of those courses were the same, along with there being crossover with the Digital Literacy course taught in the Computer Science Department.

Therefore, following discussions on how to meet the expectations of WI Act 60, Mr. Flaten advised that their recommendation is to modify the current PFL course so that it meets all of the WI Act 60 requirements and eliminate the Independent Living course because it is redundant. They will phase in the new PFL course, with current juniors and sophomores taking the currently required Digital Literacy course (no change in policy), and the 55 freshmen currently in the Digital Literacy course will be grandfathered in because the learning targets are closely aligned to the new law requirements. The other current freshmen who have not taken the Digital Literacy course will be required to take the new PFL course in their 10th, 11th, or 12th grade year.

The new PFL course will be taught in either or both the Business Education and/or Family and Consumer Science Departments. Beginning with the next school year, students will register for the PFL course and sections will be created and placed into either/both departments, depending on need and teacher availability.

The Digital Literacy course will continue to run for another 2-3 years to allow the current 10th and 11th graders to meet the graduation requirements. The new PFL course will be required starting with the class of 2029 (current 8th graders). The course will be offered to them as sophomores, not freshmen, because the content is geared more towards older students. Higher grade level students will be discouraged from taking the new PFL course because of overlap and class size.

A motion was made by Bob Adams and seconded by Betty Manion to make a recommendation to the full Board at the next regular Board meeting to approve the recommendation to phase in the new Personal Financial Literacy course and adjust the Waupaca High School graduation requirements starting with the class of 2028 to meet the requirements of WI Act 60 as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Betty Manion and seconded by Bob Adams to adjourn the meeting at 5:41 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.