



Respectful, Responsible, Safe & Prepared

INSTRUCTIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
April 27, 2023 – 3:15 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 3:52 p.m.

Roll Call:

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

Also Present:

Present in the WHS Community Room: Ron Saari, Sandy Lucas, Mark Flaten, Laurie Schmidt, Michael Werbowski, Jenifer Erb, John Erspamer, Jody Pankratz, Carrie Naparalla, Lori Wolff, Raquel Daye, and Trish Nevala.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Betty Manion 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 Committee reviewed their collective commitments.

Approve a New Resource for K-4 English Language Arts:

Director of Teaching and Learning Mark Flaten introduced Lori Wolff, 1st/2nd Grade Teacher at CEC, Raquel Daye, Title I Reading Interventionist, and Trish Nevala, MLSS Coach. They explained in detail the resource selection and adoption process, highlighting how the Early Literacy Academy made a big difference and involved the collaboration of teachers. They used very tight, specific criteria and it took over two years to vet this resource.

The K-4 English Language Arts (ELA) resource they would like the Committee and full Board to approve is Benchmark Advance/Adelante (2022 version), starting with the 2023-2024 school year. They also shared Benchmark Advance's website which provided greater detail about the resource. It is aligned to the science of reading and has a strong phonics component. It also has a very strong EL piece for our EL learners, and an online component for our virtual learners. This resource adoption would be for a minimum of seven years, and would replace the Lucy curriculum. They shared what was included with the resource, and advised that professional development will be provided to our staff.

Mr. Flaten advised we are receiving both print and digital versions so digital is always updated. He added that we may add this resource to other grade levels later, but the focus is on early literacy.

A motion was made by Molly McDonald and seconded by Betty Manion to make a recommendation to the full Board to approve Benchmark Advance as the new core English Language Arts resource for grades K-4, starting with the 2023-2024 school year, as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Making Learning Visible Update:

Mr. Flaten explained in more detail the meaning of “Making Learning Visible” and in particular what is coming next at WHS. There are four phases of Making Learning Visible: Phase 1- Curriculum, Phase 2-Assessments, Phase 3-Teaching, and Phase 4-Continuous Improvement.

WHS Principal Michael Werbowsky advised that WHS students will know what they are expected to learn based on the learning targets created for each course, and they will take classroom assessments and receive valuable feedback, be able to self-reflect and identify their own assessments. This also helps teachers to focus on their teaching, and the curriculum at WHS in 2023-2024 will be laid out in a better format. Mr. Flaten added that the assessments restructure will provide more clarity and close gaps. He further advised that WHS is not changing the grading or reporting out system next year like originally planned.

Mr. Werbowsky advised that a parent’s guide will be provided which outlines what is happening relating to Making Learning Visible at WHS in the 2023-2024 school year.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Betty Manion and seconded by Bob Adams to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.