

**MONTROSE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING  
ADMINISTRATION OFFICES**

**MEETING DATE: JANUARY 26, 2012 6:00 P.M.**

Mrs. Pam Staats  
Chairman

Mr. Michael F. Ognosky  
Superintendent of Schools

Curriculum Committee Meeting

I. January 26, 2012 Curriculum Committee meeting began at 6:00 PM in the Administrative Offices of the Montrose Area School District.

II. Board Members Present: Chairperson Pam Staats, Gloria Smith, and Chris Caterson

Administrators Present: Mike Ognosky, Chris McComb, Don Golden and Jim Tallarico

Teachers Present: Eric Powers, Mary Beth Ohmnacht and John Koloski

III. The following items under Old Business were discussed at this evening's meeting:

- **Dual Enrollment Update:** Mr. Ognosky updated the group on the status of the Dual Enrollment Program. Chemistry and Psychology are dual enrollment courses with Luzerne County Community College for this year. Mrs. Lewis (Chemistry) and Mr. Powers (Psychology) have completed the certification process. Students can make the decision to take either of those courses as dual enrollment courses at any point in the school year. Mrs. Ohmnacht emphasized that a representative from Luzerne County Community College will be in the District shortly and students will have an opportunity to utilize the dual enrollment process at that time. Students can review their current academic progress in the courses and, if they choose to enroll, they will be able to do so at a cost of \$300 per course.

IV. The following items were discussed under New Business at this evening's meeting:

- **Review of the 2011 PSSA Scores:** The scores in Math and Reading for the 2011 testing year were reviewed at both the District and individual building level. Each administrator reviewed the report card information for their school. You can find that information on the District webpage at [www.masd.info](http://www.masd.info). Simply go to the front page and scroll down the right side. You will see a "report card" icon – double click on the icon and you will be taken to the Department of Education Report Card for the Montrose Area School District.
  - **District Results:** Mr. Ognosky began the review with the District results. The District has reached "Adequate Yearly Progress" every year since AYP has been implemented and again this year reached all the target areas as they pertain to attendance, graduation rate, performance and participation. The report card summary for the District, as provided by the Department of

Education, states in regard to the District performance – “Well done! This district has performed well this year, and appears to be on track to meet the goal of all students attaining proficiency in Reading and Math by the year 2014.” There are two areas that need to be addressed in order to continue District AYP in future years: our reading and math performance in Grade 11 and our performance of IEP students in math in grades 6-8.

- **Choconut Valley:** Mr. McComb reviewed the AYP status of Choconut Valley. Choconut Valley had 13 targets to attain in reading and math participation and performance at grades 3-6 as well as attendance. Choconut Valley attained all 13 targets and met AYP status for 2011. Mr. McComb highlighted the information that can be found on the report card regarding the overall performance levels in grades 3-6 for his school – 77 % of those students performed at proficient and advanced in math, and 76 % scored at proficient and advanced in reading.
  - **Lathrop Street:** Mr. Adams reviewed the AYP status of Lathrop Street. Lathrop Street had 17 targets to attain in reading and math participation and performance at grades 3-6 as well as attendance. Lathrop Street also has an identified subgroup of IEP students that must also attain required levels. Lathrop Street attained all 17 targets and met AYP status for 2011. Mr. Adams also highlighted the information that can be found on the report card regarding the overall performance levels in grades 3-6 for his school – 81 % of his students in both reading and math performed at either advanced or proficient levels.
  - **Junior-Senior High School:** Mr. Tallarico reviewed the AYP status of the Junior-Senior High School. The Junior-Senior High School has 17 targets to attain in reading and math participation and performance in grades 7, 8 and 11 as well as graduation rate. The Junior-Senior High School also has an identified subgroup of IEP students that must also attain required levels. The Junior-Senior High School attained 16 of the 17 targets – the math IEP subgroup did not reach AYP status – and is on a ‘warning list’ for 2011. Mr. Tallarico also highlighted the information that can be found on the report card regarding overall performance levels in grades 7, 8 and 11 for his school – 72 % of all students scored proficient and advanced in reading and 64 % of all students scored proficient and advanced in math.
  - **Plans for 2012 to address areas of concern:** A discussion was held regarding the methods of addressing areas of concern. The first focus for discussion was the performance of the IEP subgroup and an emphasis was placed on identifying those students who were close to achieving a proficient score and strategies that could be utilized in order to move those students to that level. Mrs. Staats, Dr. Golden and the building administrators reviewed methods that are currently being utilized and could be utilized in that process. Mr. Ognosky then discussed the performance levels of the 11<sup>th</sup> grade students and suggested that we implement a more intense scheduling procedure for all Algebra 1 students providing them with a double period of math during their Algebra 1 year. That has been successfully implemented in a few other schools across the NEIU and has proven to be very successful. We moved to that strategy with our Junior High student two years ago and the scores of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have improved dramatically. The administration will return to a future meeting and recommend a scheduling process to address this issue.
- **Current Enrollment Status:** Enrollments in all three buildings continue to decrease. As of January 1, 2012; Lathrop Street now has a total of 447 students; Choconut Valley has 330 students; and, the Junior-Senior High School has 791 students. As we move through the budget process and receive retirement announcements from staff we will continue to review our current staffing and make recommendations.



V. Open Forum – There were no informational items at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

*Mike Ognosky*

Mike Ognosky, Superintendent