

Meeting Minutes

Board Curriculum Committee Meeting

Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

Administration at Glenn Loomis

Board Room, 1009 S. Oak Street, Traverse City, MI 49684



Approved on July 30, 2024

PRESENT: Erica Moon Mohr, Flournoy Humphreys, Beth Pack, Dr. John VanWagoner, Kirsten Wooer, Heidi Maltby-Skodack, and Tiffany Pomaville

GUEST: Jen Ciolek and Dan McGee

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Moon Mohr called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Moon Mohr offered time for public comment and no request was made.

3. LEARNING SERIES

TC High Revisioning & COMPASS Learning Center (18-Credit Diploma)

Heidi Maltby-Skodack, Executive Director of School Improvement and Innovative Programs, presented work that began in February for revisioning Traverse City High School (TC High) in relation to the district's Strategic Plan. She presented the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis completed with TC High staff and an overview of the Strategic Plan domain takeaways from the revisioning sessions in relation to Domains 1 (Governance, Practices & Policies), 2 (Culture & Climate), 3 (Instruction & Effective Practices), 4 (External Factors), and 5 (Resources).

Jennifer Ciolek, teacher and incoming Principal at TC High, provided a summary of the alternative education site visits she and Heidi completed to date and the new virtual platform, Acellus, that they are piloting for students while also providing a dedicated set of supports for virtual learners. The district is using 23g funds to pilot the virtual platform during summer academy for credit recovery at TC High, which, to date, is successfully servicing around 100 students, 30 of which are students who attend TC High during the school year. Staff at TC High worked to remove potential summer programming barriers for students, such as the enrollment process and providing extra support with classwork. An additional pilot is offering students the opportunity to complete additional courses, to earn credit, one at a time vs. taking multiple courses at one time.

Currently, all TCAPS students must earn 22 credits in order to graduate with a TCAPS diploma. Michigan Merit Curriculum requires 18 credits to graduate, which was a common theme of the alternative education sites staff visited. The Curriculum and Instructional Team is requesting a change to the graduation requirements for students graduating from TC High. The requested change in graduation requirements for TC High School requires formal approval from the Board of Education. The request is as follows: Students who are full time students, for no less than one full semester at TC High will have the option of graduating by meeting the state minimum requirements outlined for the 18 credit diploma. The vision is to offer in-person learning to students in grades 10, 11, and 12 with a virtual option. Additionally, we would consider offering the virtual option to 9th grade students who meet the criteria. Superintendent Dr. John VanWagoner added that he would like the Board to envision the proposed model as two separate schools: TC High with in-person and virtual options and the new COMPASS Learning Center, which would be a separate school for digital learning within TC High offering in-person support from school staff. If needed, a student could attend Traverse City West Senior High School or Traverse City Central High School for the majority of their course load, but they take one course at the COMPASS Learning Center. This could evolve into being able to offer in-person support for students under expulsion or suspension.

4. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

a. **Draft Committee Meeting Minutes from May 28, 2024**

The Committee discussed the Meeting Minutes from May 28, 2024. No changes were recommended and the Minutes from May 28, 2024, are to remain as posted.

b. **2023-2024 TCAPS District Course Catalog**

There were no changes to the 2023-2024 TCAPS District Course Catalog. There will be changes presented in July 2024 for the 2024-2025 edition of TCAPS District Course Catalog.

c. **18-Credit Diploma, TC High Revisioning & COMPASS Learning Center**

In follow-up to the Learning Series on this topic earlier in the meeting, Heidi Maltby-Skodack and Jennifer Ciolek presented a proposal for the adoption of an 18-credit diploma for students who have been enrolled as a full-time student at Traverse City High School for a minimum of one full semester. This initiative aims to enhance graduation rates, provide flexible learning opportunities, and support students in achieving their academic and career goals. The proposal aligns with the Michigan Department of Education's commitment to flexible graduation pathways, ensuring essential skills and knowledge acquisition. Upon Board approval, this change will be sent to Human Resources for policy updates and also added to the Secondary Student/Parent Handbook. **The Committee moved the 18-credit diploma recommendation to the full Board under Discussion Items for approval at the July 8, 2024 meeting.**

d. **AP World History Updated Request**

Kirsten Wooer, Executive Director of Student Achievement, provided an update to the original request for AP World History curriculum materials. The new purchase order provides both access to the digital licenses and one-to-one text books vs. only digital licenses and one classroom set per teacher. In addition, since the original request was presented, class enrollment for this course increased. If approved, the district would be exchanging the digital only licenses and adding the one-to-one text books to the order. **The Committee moved the updated request to the full Board under the Consent Calendar for approval at the July 8, 2024 meeting.**

e. **Field Trip Requests**

Superintendent VanWagoner presented an overview of two field trip requests: Traverse City West Senior High School's FIRST Robotics trip to the Indiana Robotics Invitational in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 11 - 13, 2024, and Traverse City Central High School's Art & Archeological trip to Italy, June 12 - June 22, 2025. **The Committee moved the field trip requests to the full Board under the Consent Calendar for approval at the July 8, 2024 meeting.**

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. **Sex Education Curriculum Presentation**

Dan McGee, district Sex Education Coordinator and teacher at Traverse City Central High School, presented the work of the Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB) during the 2023-2024 school year. Work included:

- A presentation from Generations Ahead that would be shared with students (Generations Ahead is already a TCAPS partner housed at Traverse City High School, therefore the presentation does not require Board approval).
- Reviewing documents for elementary, middle school and high school. SEAB is working on consistency of documents shared with families and students at all grade levels.

- Program evaluation for students to provide feedback to staff and the SEAB through an anonymous Google form titled “Daily Takeaways and Questions” for continuous improvement to ensure we’re meeting students’ needs.
- Reviewed data from the state as well as an evaluation tool to review if the current curriculum is meeting the students needs.

The SEAB will conduct more research during the 2024-2025 school year in order to make recommendations for potential changes to the curriculum for the 2025-2025 school year. They will use current research and science data to support any recommended changes. The only change to the program at this time that requires Board of Education approval is the recommendation to survey students using the “Daily Takeaways and Questions” form.

As required by law, two Public Hearings will take place regarding the Sex Education curriculum evaluation and changes at the Board of Education meetings on July 8, 2024 and August 12, 2024 with proposed changes adopted at the August 12, 2024 meeting.

b. Celebrations & Successes

Kirsten Wooer shared the following celebrations and successes from the month of June:

- The 4th Annual Amazing Shake at Traverse Heights
- Year-end celebrations from around the district
- TCAPS Sunshine Bus and support statistics from week #1 (usage of the supports offered by the Sunshine Bus has increased significantly since last summer)

6. OTHER ITEMS

None cited.

7. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kelly Walter

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Committee Recording Secretary

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Curriculum Committee Members:
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