

Meeting Minutes

Board Curriculum Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

Administration at Glenn Loomis

Board Room, 1009 South Oak Street, Traverse City, MI 49684



Approved on January 7, 2025

- PRESENT:** Erica Moon Mohr, Flournoy Humphreys, Beth Pack, Dr. John VanWagoner, Jessie Houghton, Dan Tiesworth, and Tiffany Pomaville
- GUESTS:** Randy Fewless, Noelle Moeggenberg, Justin Nowland, Pete Simerson, and Shelley Spencer
- ABSENT:** None

Meeting Slides Presentation

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Moon Mohr called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

3. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

a. **Draft Committee Meeting Minutes from October 29, 2024**

The Committee discussed the Meeting Minutes from October 29, 2024. No changes were recommended and the Minutes from October 29, 2024, are to remain as posted.

b. **2024-2025 TCAPS District Course Catalog Updates**

Jessie Houghton, Chief Academic Officer - Secondary, reported on the updates to the Course Catalog. The changes include additions of the following courses: ACL High School Health, ACL High School Health 1st Half, ACL High School Health 2nd Half, ACL Introduction to Accounting 1st Half, ACL Introduction to Accounting 2nd Half, ACL Business Management 1st Half, ACL Business Management 2nd Half, ACL Introduction to Java 1st Half, ACL Introduction to Java 2nd Half, ACL Fundamentals of Design, and ACL Stem 3 Electronics & Coding.

The Committee moved the Course Catalog updates to the full Board under the Consent Calendar for approval at the December 9, 2024 meeting.

c. **Field Trip Request - Montessori 7th & 8th Grade to Chicago, Illinois**

Jessie Houghton, Chief Academic Officer - Secondary, presented the request for approximately 35 students to travel to Chicago from May 13-17, 2025. This trip will introduce the students to topics covered during the academic year in science and social studies. Students will visit museums such as the Shedd Aquarium, Field Museum, and Art Museum. Students will stay overnight at a hotel and participate in team-building activities. There will be two staff members and two district-approved volunteer chaperones on this trip. Transportation will be by train and a chartered bus. The estimated cost per student is \$500 and will be paid for through parent donations and classroom fundraising.

The Committee moved the field trip request to the full Board under the Consent Calendar for approval at the December 9, 2024 meeting.

4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. Board Curriculum Learning Series: Community Partnerships

Meeting of the Minds

Dan Tiesworth, Chief Academic Officer - Elementary introduced Misti Warner, Director of Whole-Child Systems, who provided an overview of the Meeting of the Minds. The group was created to enhance communication, identify and break down barriers to services for students, and to improve the coordination of care between TCAPS, local physicians, mental health providers, the court system, and law enforcement. Highlights of Meeting of the Minds include *Handle with Care* notifications implemented district-wide and the establishment of a Coordination of Care Team. Ms. Warner introduced Grand Traverse County Prosecuting Attorney Noelle Moeggenberg, Undersheriff Randy Fewless, School Resource Officer Justin Nowland, and TCPD Officer Pete Simerson. Ms. Moeggenberg provided the background of how the group started and the impact the group is having on the coordination of care for students. Ms. Moeggenberg works directly with TCAPS on students charged with CSC who are also under a Title IX investigation by TCAPS. The Prosecutor's office now sends the mandatory conviction notification letters earlier when a student is charged with a crime (rather than after a conviction) in a collaborative effort to get the necessary support in place at the district level for students as soon as possible. Ms. Houghton added that the early notifications of students experiencing trauma or under investigation by law enforcement help staff to better assist all students involved in incidents.

Western Michigan University's School of Social Work FASTER Program

Ms. Warner provided an overview of the FASTER Program. FASTER stands for *Family Assessments, Specialized Treatment Advancing Resiliency in Families*. This partnership provides training and professional development for the district's Mental Health Team around trauma-informed programs and practices. A team from WMU visits TCAPS and conducts trauma assessments for students and caregivers as well as facilitates parenting groups at schools in the district.

TRAILS - Transforming Research into Action to Improve the Lives of Students

Ms. Warner provided an overview of this program that was founded out of the University of Michigan's medical school and provided to TCAPS through Northwest Education Services. TRAILS is used in grades 3-12 district-wide and provides social and emotional learning (SEL) training/access to materials, mindfulness training, and suicide prevention/risk management training. This year, 85 students are participating in this program. The entire TCAPS Mental Health Team went through the TRAILS Suicide Prevention training this fall.

Cook Center for Human Connection - *ParentGuidance.org*

Ms. Warner provided an overview of this service that offers free resources for families available at www.parentguidance.org. They offer 50+ on-demand, self-paced courses led by therapists. They also offer "Ask a Therapist" to assist with mental health questions and a *MyLifelsWorthLiving.org* free animated series for teens. The district Mental Health Team and all principals are aware of these resources to share with families. A district-wide communication will be shared with families soon.

Munson Healthcare-TCAPS Partnership

Shelley Spencer, Munson Healthcare's Chief Human Resource Officer, presented an overview of the Munson Healthcare partnership with TCAPS. The partnership's start was twofold; to introduce students to the career pathways available in healthcare, and to grow the local healthcare employment pipeline. The partnership also involves Northwestern Michigan College, Grand Valley State University, and Northwest Education Services Career Tech Center. Ms. Spencer highlighted the phases of the partnership which include a book project for grades K-4, grade 5 healthcare immersion days, grades 6-8 curriculum connections and classroom visits, and grades 9-12 curriculum connections and college linkages. Mr. Tiesworth added that the immersion days also exposed 5th grade students to the Northwestern Michigan College campus which some students may not have otherwise ever experienced.

b. Michigan Department of Education (MDE) School Index Scores

Ms. Houghton provided an overview of the state's school index scores explaining how the scores are composed as percentages and the metrics the state uses. She shared TCAPS most recent school index scores released by the state for elementary and secondary. These scores recently released represent the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Houghton shared graphs comparing TCAPS overall index scores from the 2022-2023 school year to the 2023-2024 school year.

c. Celebrations & Successes

Houghton and Tiesworth shared the following celebrations and successes from November:

- Holly Glidden, a Special Education teacher at CHS, had her students learn about earth and life sciences, anchored by the story of Frankenstein. AP classes visited to talk with the students about their own experiences reading Frankenstein.
- CKLA pilot visit to the ELA early adopters teachers' classrooms.
- Two WMS students were recognized as winners in the VFW Post 2780 Patriot's Pen Contest.
- Westwoods Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes enjoyed a weather lesson from 7&4 News Team Meteorologist Heather Bricca.
- For the first time in school history, CHS's volleyball team won a regional championship.
- Willow Hill students learned from Jeremy Hobbs, musician and motivational speaker, as he taught about Willow Hill's PBIS theme: SOAR - Safety, Ownership, Acceptance, Respect.
- WSH debate team's performance at the Utica Online Invitational.
- Silver Lake students wrote letters to veterans creating meaningful connections.
- CHS had a very successful Musical - Seussical. WSH's spring musical planning is underway. Everyone is encouraged to attend holiday musicals throughout the district.
- Blair's T.H.I.N.K. winners for the week of November 22nd. T.H.I.N.K. stands for Team Player, Have Respect, In Control, Never Give Up, and Kind.

5. OTHER ITEMS

Chairperson Moon Mohr thanked Trustee Flournoy Humphries for her service on the Board Curriculum Committee.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Kelly Walter

Kelly Walter

Committee Recording Secretary

Next Board Curriculum Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

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1009 South Oak Street, Traverse City, MI 49684

Curriculum Committee Members:

Erica Moon Mohr (Chair), Beth Pack, Flourney Humphreys,

Dr. John VanWagoner, Jessie Houghton, Dan Tiesworth