

MINUTES OF THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING OF SENECA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL, DISTRICT 160, SENECA, ILLINOIS

A meeting of the Curriculum Committee was held on September 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order with the following members present: Rich Hamilton. Also present: Mike Coughlin, Kristine Einhaus, Jennifer Frye, Chris Jackson, Kristi Pabian and Dan Stecken.

A. 2023 Summer school update

Mr. Jackson shared the 2023 Summer school numbers for both Dual Credit Speech and Driver's education classes. In the DC Speech class, through an additional cost to the family, students are able to earn 3 credit hours through IVCC. Mr. Jackson commented on the numerous benefits of offering the summer classes even with declining enrollment.

B. Freshman orientation

Mr. Coughlin informed the committee regarding the 2023 Freshman orientation. SHS held the orientation over a day and a half on August 15th and 16th. He sent out a survey to all Freshmen to get feedback on their experience. The results received from sixty-five survey results were all very positive.

C. Final exam exemptions

Mr. Coughlin updated the committee regarding fall 2022 final exam exemptions. Mr. Coughlin reviewed the final exam exemptions criteria with the committee. 1.) All students regardless of grade can earn a maximum of four final exam exemptions. 2.) Students earning exemptions must have an A in the class. 3.) Students can't have more than two minor discipline issues during the semester. 4.) Students can't miss more than 16 class periods or four days of school during the first semester 5.) If a student ever appears on the eligibility list with a failing grade, they lose the opportunity to be exempt from that class. 6.) Any student that has a D or F in any class, loses the opportunity to be exempt from all finals.

D. Parent Involvement

Mr. Coughlin reviewed the three nights that parents are invited to collaborate with SHS faculty on their student's educational needs. Parents attending all three nights will continue to receive a 75.00 discount on 24-25 registration costs. Curriculum Night was held on Tuesday, August 22nd. Mr. Coughlin encouraged the parents to complete the 5 Essentials survey again this spring. The window will be open from January 22, 2024 - March 29, 2024.

E. Teacher Professional Development

Mr. Coughlin updated the committee on the plans for the upcoming Seneca Way Day. Dr. Stecken has scheduled Mr. Joe Sanfelipo from Fall Creek Wisconsin. Joe is a big school culture guy and we are very excited to have him working with us this fall. Additionally, we have a lot of teachers attending local PD opportunities this year too.

F. New classes at SHS

Mr. Coughlin reported on the two new classes at Seneca High School. In our Nursing CTE, Ms. Schmidt is offering a new dual credit course through IVCC called Human Growth and Development course is off to a great start with

twelve juniors and seniors all interested in healthcare or the education field! So far we have made it through prenatal and toddler development - emphasizing physical, cognitive, and psychosocial growth in those periods.


Mrs. Foster's new class is off to a great start too. The Student and Career Success (SCS) class just completed the first unit on Email Etiquette. There has been positive feedback from teachers on the professional emails being sent from the students who are currently enrolled in the class this semester. The students also had their first lesson within the Naviance program where they identified their foundation and discovered some careers that would be suitable based on the results from the Career Interest quiz.

G. College & Career Pathway Endorsement.

Mr. Coughlin reported on the new platform created by ISBE to organize our work based learning opportunities. Some of the requirements include... students could complete 60 hours on their own and keep a timesheet, report to the teacher, students must either receive dual credit for hours OR be paid for the hours and include team based challenges, career exploration/development. Seneca High School will submit their 1st plan for the 23 - 24 school year for a Health Sciences pathway endorsement with our Basic Certified Nursing Assistant class being the work based component.

H. Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.



Board President



Board Secretary

9/20/23

Date