

SOUTH ORANGETOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Curriculum Council
January 10, 2008
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Minutes

Attending

Members: Elizabeth Howell Scotson, Sara Tucker, Paula Leavey, Judy Pocalyko, YuBong Ko, Jeanne Palumbo, Nora Polansky, William Lee, Ph.D., Edward A. Bolan, Lynn Gorey, Rosemary Pitruzzella

Guests: Paul Guglielmo, Steve Sherman, Liz Fearen, Sheila Silverman, Liam Frawley, Cindy Pardo

Absent

Members: Catherine Ascolese, Elayne Armaniaco, Deena Bollinger, Michele Fenster

PRESENTATIONS

1. New Course Offerings: 2008 – 2009

- a. Social Studies Lab – Steve Sherman, Team Leader, Social Studies – TZHS
The objective of this class is to provide extra support for the large number of students who are challenging themselves by taking an Advanced Placement class. Data and other details were shared. The Council supported this course.
- b. Evolution of American Culture and Government – ESL Elective – Elizabeth Fearen, Team Leader, ESL – TZHS
This elective would give English Language Learners the opportunities to earn an elective credit in a course designed to enhanced their English skills while building background knowledge vital to and supportive of Regents-level content courses. Data and details were shared The Council supported this course.

2. Project Lead The Way: 2008 – 2009

- a. Paul Guglielmo and Bill Lee presented the “Gateway to Technology” plan for SOMS. Two units of study will be added to Explore. All seventh grade students will experience one full unit. Eighth graders will be exposed to some of the new unit in the Explore class and the traditional Design and Drawing class that we have offered in grade 8 will become a full Gateway to Tech – Advanced Tech program. Data and details were shared. A new multi-purpose Macintosh lab will be created across from the Tech rooms to run the new tech software. The room will also be used by the Math and Art departments. The Council supports this plan.

- b. Ed Bolan shared the High School Plan. At the High School, there will be two Tech Paths available. Students who are interested in the Project Lead The Way Pre-Engineering Program will begin the sequence with the first course – Introduction to Engineering Design. Students who are interested in more hands-on technology will be able to take Design and Drawing. A wide range of hands-on tech courses will be offered including: Architectural CAB, Computer CAD, Cabinetry and Small Engines.

The second Project Lead The Way course – Principles of Engineering will be offered as an advanced tech course.

There will be additional Project Lead The Way courses added in subsequent years.

The Council supports this plan and was encouraged to see our District moving in this direction

3. Opting Out: 2008 – 2009 (Liam Frawley)

Liam gave a review of the history of this topic. The topic has been on the agenda of the BLT at TZHS and the Wellness Committee this year. The recommendation to remove opting out as an option for the 08 – 09 school year is supported by the Council. The BOE policy would have to be changed to support this. This will be brought to the BOE on January 24, 2008.

Next Meeting:

February 7	Agenda:	New Math Course at TZHS for students who fail Math in grade 8
April 10	Agenda:	Update on curriculum review cycle areas: Math, Health/PE and Art
June 10	Agenda	Update review cycle for 08 – 09 textbook adoption, if there are any new books being considered. (This may move to April 10 if needed)