Curriculum Committee Meeting Notes 5/9/17

Called to order - 10:50

In attendance: Heather Tamsin, Gerald Marmat, Lori Crocker-Lincoln, Karen Bergin, Charlie Kernan, Carole McCombe, Elizabeth Rhynhart

1. Chromebooks and Google Apps

- a. Jason has set them up and is letting them charge up and updating to the most current version before they are deployed
- b. They will be housed in Candy Mead's room as she sees grades 3-8 for science and will be using the tech-book
- c. Jason and Heather compiled info from staff about needs for Chromebooks and and Google apps - 70% of staff have never used a chromebook - we will be using the PD day on June 20th to provide training/time

2. Social Studies Curriculum

- a. Where I Live CT an online resource about Connecticut history for grade 3&4 (CT history is currently taught in grade 3)
- b. Activities for teachers and students geography, history, economics
- c. Still in a piloting phase
- d. Inquiry based program Cost? A bit unclear may be free or may be between \$2-\$4 per student should be cleared up in June
- e. May be ready in the fall does seem to coordinate with CC Standards.
- f. Grade 3 currently has a textbook but it is grade 4 level and grade 3 is also currently using a magazine CT Studies Weekly written at the grade 4 level.
- g. Lori started a textbook request form for this resource
- h. Charlie reviewed the Social Studies curriculum map which contains the new Social Studies Frameworks and how they are covered throughout the school year -Middle school textbook was published in 2008 - Charlie is using Newsela to keep up with current events not covered in the textbook. Grade 8 uses Library of Congress primary documents as a free resource.
 - -Topics for grade 8 are more stable topics in grade 6&7 are more fluid and change often Charlie feels he has the resources he needs to cover these topics

3. Overview of June 20th PD

- a. Heather gathered info from staff on level of familiarity with Chromebooks and Google classroom/apps
- b. Day will be spent: Getting familiar with Chromebooks, training on specific shortcuts for Chromebooks, highlight differences between Macs and Chromebooks and when to use each, overview of Google Classroom, setting up, grade level progression of best practices, security issues, digital citizenship, students understanding proper use of their email, setting up teachers to get notified when new apps are available and specific suggestions for implementation, how to clean out your Class stream when necessary, how to work offline if you are in a blackout area so you don't lose your work, time for teachers to try things out to be ready for the first month of school

4. June curriculum

a.Discovery Ed tech-book came with 6 hours of PD - Heather is planning for K-2 and science teachers to use that PD time in June

Meeting adjourned 11:30