

Amherst School Board Meeting
Final Minutes
Thursday, June 4, 2015

Present: Lucienne Foulks, Amy Facey, Peg Bennett, Paul Prescott, Jim Manning, Peter Warburton, Nicole Heimark and Betty Shankel

Nicole explained that the summer literacy institute will take place for four days again this summer. The purpose of this year's institute is for a group of teachers covering grades 1 - 11 to develop an ELA and social studies curriculum that is aligned with the common core. The curriculum will be piloted in the 15/16 school year. Revisions will be made next summer and full implementation will happen in the 16/17 school year. All of the work is being done in i39.

Twenty three teachers will participate in the literacy institute. Forty teachers volunteered, but, due to the lack of funds we were forced to scale back. The teachers were chosen based on the following criteria:

1. Grade level coordinator for either ELA or SS
2. Teaching ELA or SS next year

Even at twenty three participants the funding falls short for the institute. It is important to have participation from the twenty three teachers who were chosen as each grade level needs fair/equal representation so that the information can be brought back to the other teachers on the team. It is not ideal that we cannot have broader participation for this institute.

Summer institutes are generally funded with grant money. A Title IIA grant was applied for to pay for this summer's literacy institute. Unfortunately, the grant was not funded in its entirety and we are short \$9291.64.

Discussion ensued.

Because the Amherst school district made cuts in spending throughout the FY15 fiscal year there will be budget savings at year end (June 30, 2015).

Paul Prescott made a motion to fund the \$9291.64 shortage for the summer literacy institute from the year-end savings. Peg Bennett seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 a.m.