

**Douglas County School District
Art Study Group Meeting
Thursday, May 21, 2015
3:30 p.m.**

**Minutes Approved
September 14, 2015**

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Rita Borseli, DHS Art Teacher
KC Brennan, DHS Art Teacher
Cynthia Patmont, PHES/JVES Art Teacher
Robin Reyes, GWHS Art Teacher
Cindy Schnaare, PWLMS Art Teacher
Amy Sando, DHS Art Teachers
Shannon Sedlock, MES/GES Art Teacher
Mary Stoll, CCMES Art Teacher
Kelley Yost, DHS Art Teacher
Zoe Shorten, Art Teacher
Sharla Hales, Community Member
Robert Schilling, Community Member
Keith Lewis, Principal, Pau Wa Lu Middle School
Shannon Brown, Principal, Gardnerville Elementary School

District Personnel Present: Brandon Swain, Director of Education Services – Area 4

Call to Order

Mr. Swain called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of the meeting of April 23, 2015 meeting

Mr. Brown motioned to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2015 meeting, as presented, seconded by Ms. Schnaare.

Public Comment

No public comments were offered.

Work Session Reports and Discussion

The art teachers worked throughout the day compiling information on the current status for art in the district for grades K-12. Items discussed were things to do for the art program that were no cost, neutral cost, budget items, etc. The committee was informed of the changes occurring in the 2015-16 school year with the 9th grade going to the high school, the 6th grade to the middle school and the elementary being a K-5 grade level. PHES and JVES also have a PK program and art is taught in PK at these two schools. Discussion ensued about the alternating A week/B week schedule suggested by the music committee. The art teachers feel that this would be difficult for them as they would have to move all of their supplies to each site every week and that purchasing duplicate supplies would be a huge cost issue. Art projects would take months to complete. It was noted that the reason this committee came to be was at the request of the music teachers, as they felt the music program was not being built up as it should be in K-6 in preparation for the middle school. The music committee were looking at the A week/B week schedule, but they also stated that if it did not work for the art teachers that other options would have to be discussed. A suggestion was made as to whether art could continue on a semester schedule and music move to the A week/B week schedule. Mr. Swain suggested bringing the two groups together to come to a solution as to what would work best for all. With the changes

coming in to play for the 2015-16 school year it's difficult to make a decision at this time on what plan would work best.

Mr. Swain stated the purpose of this meeting was so that the art teachers could provide information just as the music group did so that information could be brought to the Board.

Establish Current Status

There are 3 elementary art teachers for 6 schools; there are no theatre arts teachers for elementary; there are 2 art teachers at the middle level and no theatre arts at the middle level; there are 3 art teachers and 1 theatre arts teachers at DHS; there is 1 art teacher for three classes and 1 theater arts teacher for one class at GWHS. There is some inconsistency on budgets from site to site. The budget for art is allocated by the site principal. Class size can vary from 20-30 students.

Middle school art classes are offered grades 7-9 and that will change to 6-8. Classes vary from 20-30 students. High school art and theater art are currently grades 10-12. Class sizes vary from 25-30.

Art teachers collaborate and discuss projects and ideas across grades levels and follow Nevada Art Standards. Items used to demonstrate rigor of instruction are student art work, photos, teacher lesson plans, and gathered student data.

No Cost Improvement Items

Tier 1

- Consistent budgeting for art per student site to site
- Prep time to complete labor-intensive work such as: prep for art shows, displaying student art at each site, putting student work on the website
- Building the fine arts/theater arts programs
- Equity in importance among contents
- Student scheduling for higher level classes
- 8 period schedule would enable greater flexibility in scheduling, more advancement in skill level and higher level classes

Tier 2

- Additional art and music classes could be offered for students in sub-populations supporting students to perform better in a small class environment
- Skill development for primary students (develop fine motor skills, introductory art and technical skills)

Tier 3

- Art teachers could support classroom teachers by teaching, reading, skills through art methods, and through other co-teaching opportunities
- Art blog utilizing the school website
- Have professional artist from the community come in to talk to students, or teach lessons so that students can see what jobs are available in the art field

Price Tag Improvement Items

Tier 1

- Minimum budget, appropriate for each site and its class offerings, should be allocated from the site's discretionary budget
- Site-specific work spaces, furnishings, and equipment for fine art/theater art classes
- K-12 art teacher collaboration opportunities

Tier 2

- One art, theater arts and music teacher at every elementary site
- One theater arts teacher at each middle school
- Stipends for technical director and musical theater
- Professional development specific to art, theater and music
- Attendance at the National Theater Arts Education Conference and Nevada State Art Conference
- National Arts Core Standards Training

Mr. Swain concluded the meeting by informing the group that he will be preparing a presentation for the group to review and provide feedback. Mr. Swain is looking at possibly bringing this to the September Board Meeting.

Public Comment:

No public comments were offered.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by,
Margaret Guzman
Douglas County School District
Education Services; Area 4