School Meeting  
February 26, 2014

Present: Frank Adams, Barb Black, Alan Bruflat, Kathleen Conway, Janice Dinsmore, Laura Franklin, Sally Harms, Casey Hurner, Joni Irlmeier, Brook Jech, Karla Jensen, Branis Knezevic, Pamela Langlie-Willers, Dennis Lichty, Judy Moeller, Lori Newcomb, Jim Ossian, Craig Pease, Liesel Powicki, Phyllis Spethman, Bob Sweetland, Greg VanderWeil, Sara Walsh, Chris Tee Weixelman, Joseph Weixelman

Absent: Johanna Barnes, Liane Bode, Steve Dinsmore, Sherry Dorman, Tim Sharer, Keith Willis

Meeting called to order at 3:03 p.m.

1. **Content Testing**—Phyllis stated that the content testing will be required for certification starting Sept. 1st, 2015. So the vote will not be on whether or not our students should take the test, but **when** we will require students to take the test. There are 3 options:
   
   I. **Prior to student teaching**
   II. **During student teaching (required for graduation)**
   III. **Post-graduation but prior to recommendation for certification**

   Greg Vanderweil mentioned that he already requires his 409 students to take the test as part of his class requirements. Option number 3 will allow Greg to continue doing this. Sally Harms stated that students applying for jobs are being asked by employers what they scored on the test. Employers are wanting our students to have taken the test by the time they apply for a job. Alan Bruflat stated his department was leaning toward requiring the students to take the test before student teaching, but he recently spoke to a student who experienced so much growth and application that it may be better to take the test after student teaching. Joseph Weixelman has his 409 students take a practice test of 40 questions in 1 hour. About 80% of the students pass the test. The 20% that don’t tend to be the students who he notices problems with anyway. Discussion led into the validity of the test, etc. Dr. Lichty reminded the faculty that we cannot discuss whether or not we have the students take the test. It will be required for certification, therefore, Dr. Lichty asked that a motion be brought to the floor. A motion was made and seconded to go with option 3 and require our students to take the test prior to being recommended for certification (Adams/VanderWeil). Motion passed with 18 ayes, 3 opposed, and 1 abstention.

2. **SPD Program Changes**—Laura and Casey presented the changes to the current SPD K-12 Field Endorsement and went over the two new subject endorsement options; K-6 and 7-12. Laura and Casey have prepared a power point and some hand-outs to assist the faculty when advising. Promotion of the new options will occur across campus.

3. **NECC and Academic Calendar**—Brook stated that Lynette had emailed wanting to know what the preference for summer 2015 scheduling was. Do we want to do the same schedule as this summer (3 week session that overlaps with the first 6 week session, then a second 6 week session) or do we want to go back to the old summer schedule that has one 3 week session that does not overlap with the first 6 week session. A motion was made and seconded to go back to the old summer scheduling (Conway/Adams). Motion carried.

4. **CLSP Update**—Branis reported in Dr. Willis’ absence. She stated that the department has been working on the graduate portfolio for Chalk and Wire.

5. **EDFL Update**—Joni reported that the education department has been meeting and sub groups have been meeting to work on the artifacts that will need to go into the syllabi and then Chalk and Wire. Dr. Lichty informed the faculty that Dr. Sharer will start doing APL training to all students as part of their student teaching. They will get the first 3 days before going out to student teach. Then they will get the last 2 days at mid-term. This will be at no additional cost to our students and will be unlike any other program around. Dr.
Sharer will be wrapping up his duties as Director of Graduate studies in June and will be moving up to the 3rd floor (office 310). Joni will move into the Director of Graduate Studies July 1 and will be moving to the main office. Johanna will step in as department chair this summer for a 2 year term.

6. **Graduate Studies**—There are 24 new Reading Specialist students!

7. **Other Items**—Joni announced they will be doing a brief Chalk and Wire training on March 21st as part of the assessment day agenda. Karla Jensen announced that the faculty will start doing their own book orders online starting with the Fall 2014 book orders. She will give them the directions and their previous book orders once she gets them ready. She is available to assist the faculty as needed with the process. Dr. Lichty announced that he has finished the faculty evaluations and Brook will be contacting them to set up a time to meet with him next week.

8. **Upcoming Dates**:
   a. March 5—VPAA Technology Grant Applications due to the Dean
   b. March 7—Fridays @ WSC
   c. March 7-17—EDC Comps
   d. March 10-14—Mid-Term Break

The meeting was adjourned, 4:25 p.m.

Next School Meeting: Wednesday, March 26th, 2014 8:00 a.m. in room 218

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Brook Jech.