



North Shore Schools

Discovering Your Dreams

BOE Meeting Summary

April 15, 2010

Presentations/Discussions:



1. Technology Report:

Paul Pelech, Director of Technology, gave a presentation outlining the Technology Plan for 2010-13. The plan, a requirement of the state, must be approved by the Board prior to filing to the state.

Trustees thanked Mr. Pelech for his report and asked him to prepare a subsequent presentation outlining more specific technology recommendations for the future including any budget impact.

2. Co-Teaching Special Education Model Grades 4-9:

Tom Korb, Special Education Director, along with Assistant Special Education Directors Eric Fazioli (HS/MS) and Marcy Laredo (Elementary) reviewed the progress of the Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) Program currently implemented in grades 4-9.

On the elementary level, the ICT model contains a full day general education teacher, a ½ day special education teacher and a ½ day assistant. In the secondary model, there is a general education and special education teacher at all times. As explained, some reasons for changing to the ICT Program were due to the Foundations in Learning (FIL) program meeting social and emotional concerns.

Since implementing current ICT model, data already indicates that absentee rates have gone down considerably and there have been less discipline referrals. Mr. Fazioli communicated that academic data indicates that the gap of special education students passing state exams was closed considerably. Although, these results are directly connected to the FIL Program, a goal of the ICT Program will be to close the gap of the “mastery level” as well.

The Board discussed the specifics of the program. It was agreed that the gap closing figures were very impressive. A question was asked regarding the ratio of special education students to general education students in a class. Dr. Melnick responded that the guideline is for a maximum of 12 special education students in an ICT class and to aim for no more than 25% special education students in a class, but the district can have less. Dr. Melnick added that this would depend on the number of classified students per grade level.

(For further information regarding this meeting, please see the North Shore Board of Education Minutes for April 15, 2010 at www.northshoreschools.org)