

**Board of Education  
Worth School District 127**

Dr. Rosemary Lucas Administrative Center, Conference Room  
11218 South Ridgeland Avenue, Worth, IL 60482

**Minutes of the October 27, 2014 Education Committee Meeting**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Carol Kats called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Carol Kats, Rebecca Roti

Absent: Meghan Sisk

Administration: Dr. Rita Wojtylewski, Cindy Dykas

Invited Guests: Worth Elementary: Lisa Lyke, Kathy Dennis, Regina Garrity  
Worthwoods: Tim Hathhorn, Ashley Toms  
Worth Junior High: Joe Zampillo, Linda Esposito, Sarah Catt, Brittany Largent, Amy Smith, Debbie Woods  
Worthridge: Peggy Reipsa, Bob Moyer

Others Present: Brenda Miller (Recording Secretary)

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Kats led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **CITIZENS' REMARKS – AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no remarks made.

5. **MATHEMATICS ADOPTION (K-5) UPDATE**

Kathy Dennis, Regina Garrity, and Ashley Toms reported on the new mathematics series "*My Math*". The series has provided a big shift into the Common Core Standards. The manipulative component has been a tremendous asset in engaging the students, along with the use of document cameras, smartboards, and student activity stations. The textbooks are student friendly, and an online component for parents and students is part of the series adoption. The series exposes students to a consistent vocabulary, which will continue as students advance to the next grade. The teachers are working collaboratively to implement the new series.

6. **RISING STAR REPORT**

Peggy Reipsa reported that the district is using the Rising Star web-based platform to track school progress and accomplishments. The district and school continuous improvement process includes 1) collecting and analyzing data; 2) defining district and school goals; 3) identifying structures in place; 4) using research and implementing effective strategies and activities to meet the goals; and 5) monitoring and evaluating the success of the implementations.

Lisa Lyke, Tim Hathhorn, and Joe Zampillo reported on the goals develop by each of the schools. Worthwoods School is focusing on 1) the new math series and an ongoing assessment; and 2) "character counts" development. Worth Elementary is focusing on 1) the new math series; 2) differentiating instruction; and 3) reading enrichment. Worth Junior High is focusing on 1) promoting social/academic success; 2) behavioral programming and student management support; and 3) utilization of AIMSweb benchmarking.

7. TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Dr. Wojtylewski reported on plans to develop a K-8 technology curriculum using the ISTE standards. The curriculum will teach the ethical use of technology, researching skills, and keyboarding skills. The district will begin with teaching keyboarding skills in response to the PARCC online testing effective in FY16. Dr. Wojtylewski will work with Debbie Woods and Cassandra Gehrke to develop a technology curriculum to be in place by the end of this school year.

Dr. Wojtylewski and Debbie Woods reported on their preview of the “*Type to Learn*” keyboarding program. The web-based program is very interactive and is designed to meet varying ability levels from kindergarten through grade 8.

Bob Moyer reported that the district wireless project will be completed over winter break.

8. ISAT REPORT

Dr. Wojtylewski reported on the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) testing, which is the new state assessment and accountability measure for Illinois students enrolled in public schools.

Because the ISAT test was not the same test format as last year, data from different school years cannot be effectively compared. The principals reported that the item analysis report provided the most useful comparison of what teachers might need to address in terms of curricular objectives.

9. DIFFERENTIATED CURRICULUM

Amy Smith, Brittany Largent, and Sarah Catt individually reported on the framework of reading instruction and the use of differentiated instruction in grades 6, 7, and 8. Handouts were given to Committee members showing classroom activities and homework assignments to support the adaptability to differentiated instruction.

10. NOVEMBER INSTITUTE DAY

Dr. Wojtylewski reported that the November 4 institute day agenda will be conducted by two trainers from the Danielson Group on Charlotte Danielson’s Framework for Teaching. All certified staff will receive a book regarding the Framework.

11. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS AND REQUESTS

A committee member reiterated her hope that parents will have access to the PowerSchool website in order to provide them with a more timely snapshot of how their child(ren) are doing in school. She felt that the ability for parents to check grades and missing assignments on a weekly basis is more efficient for both parents and staff members. Dr. Wojtylewski stated that the administration is aware that a parent portal on PowerSchool is a topic that needs further discussion.

Dr. Wojtylewski expressed her appreciation to the staff present for taking time from their busy schedules to meet with the Committee. She thanked them for reporting on the wonderful work of the staff in embracing the new mathematics series and the Common Core Standards.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Rebecca Roti moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 p.m.  
Carol Kats seconded the motion.

Voice Vote – All Aye - Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted:



Carol A. Kats  
Chairperson