

**Woodford Co. Middle School**  
**SBDM Minutes**  
**Special Called Meeting – May 5, 2008**

**Members present:** Stephanie Koontz      Genie Graf      Patt Owen  
                                 Vivian Poindexter      Teresa VanMeter      Jessica Hall

Mrs. Koontz called the meeting to order.

**Visitors present** – Kaitlyn Hood, Lyann Fannin, Camellia Rizk, Tammy Magness  
Lois Gillespie, Patti Sebastian, Rick Carr, Derby Akers, Whitney Allison, Tony Scherk

**Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

Mrs. Koontz presented the following agenda:

- ❖ Review of previous meetings
- ❖ Public participation
- ❖ Hear response to the charge from the Curriculum and Instruction Committee
- ❖ Input, discussion, and questions
- ❖ Recommendation

A motion to accept the agenda and the minutes from the special called meeting of April 29, 2008 was made by Mrs. Hamilton; seconded by Mrs. VanMeter.

As per the previous meetings, Mrs. Koontz stated that the 2 considerations before the council were the following:

- A. *To reduce 1 language arts position and not rehire for the science resignation*
- B. *To reduce 1 leadership position and not rehire for the science resignation*

**Public Participation**

Sixth grade student Kaitlyn Hood presented a petition signed by students who were against the idea of having to choose between band and choir (as per one of the proposed schedules looked at by the council).

Mrs. Patti Sebastian offered an addendum to information she had previously submitted to the council, specifically on the guidance plan she and Mrs. Akers have developed.

Mrs. Akers reiterated Mrs. Sebastian’s information and gave more information on how the counselors deal with truancy issues.

**Curriculum and Instruction Charge Response**

Mr. Rick Carr, chairperson of this committee, presented an overview of the proposed schedule and hard copies were given to the council for review. The committee suggests eliminating one language arts position, making writing a semester class and attaching a rotation class to it. Each team would then have to decide how to offer and teach some kind of enrichment class to offset the loss of the “attached” rotation course. A possible suggestion is that each teacher would teach a 4.5 week course during one of his/her planning periods. Teams would need to propose, prior to June, what rotation class/classes they would like to offer so that approval from the council can be given in order to proceed with the actual scheduling of students.

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The benefits of this proposal are as follows:

- ❖ A great deal of flexibility
- ❖ Follows the schedule WCMS is currently using
- ❖ Students would NOT have to choose between band and choir
- ❖ More equality of planning time between core and rotation teachers
- ❖ Team planning would remain

Mrs. Koontz asked for feedback from the council.

Mrs. Owen has a concern about eliminating the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Arts and Humanities class and having students choose between band and choir. Mrs. Graf's and Mrs. VanMeter's parental feedback also dealt with the band/choir issue.

After further discussion, option C was added for consideration:

*To reduce 1 language arts position and reduce one leadership position*

Options A and B involve a release of one certified staff member, option C would be a 2 person reduction and someone would be hired to fill the science position. Using the proposed schedule, a reduction of one teaching position would mean team members would have to teach approximately 4.5 weeks during one of their plans, and a reduction of two teaching positions would mean team members would have to teach approximately 9 weeks during one of their plans.

Ms. Camellia Rizk asked whether the SBDM recommendation had to be content specific. Mrs. Koontz answered that even though the council only makes a recommendation regarding positions, not people, the recommendation does indeed need to be specific to a particular subject.

Mrs. Koontz asked the council whether or not there were any options that could be removed by consensus. Mrs. VanMeter said that, as a parent, she wants the building to be safe and that she feels 3 principals and 2 counselors are necessary to insure that. Mrs. Graf said she preferred option A. Mrs. Owen said the reason she doesn't care for option A is that she would like to see someone hired for the science position and she would like to ensure that the Arts and Humanities class stays on the schedule. Ms. Poindexter agreed that another class could be lost if positions were reshuffled.

There was consensus to remove options B and C.

Option D was added:

*To reduce 2 language arts positions and hire for the vacated science position*

Mrs. Owen asked for consensus to strike option A. Mrs. VanMeter said she could not agree because she didn't want to lose writing classes. Mrs. Koontz reviewed all options again. She asked for consensus for option D saying that the last people hired would be the 2 cuts in the language arts department. There was consensus except for Mrs. Graf. After additional discussion there was consensus for option D.

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**Recommendation**

The WCMS SBDM council will recommend to the Board of Education that 2 language arts positions be reduced and a candidate be hired to fill the science vacancy.

**Adjourn**

Mrs. Hall made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Graf. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM