

**Curriculum Advisory Council
Minutes**



**September 22, 2025
5:15 to 6:45
Woodland Media Center**

Present: Trish Perry, Megan Burkhammer, Jason Lattimer, Ruthie Schultz, Corey Johnson, Amy Balcome, Shawn Reilly, Troy Wunderlich, Kaylee Emter, Brady Emter, Maya Nesbitt, Michelle Bethke-Kaliher, Susan Anderson, Kari Van Wakeren, Heather Timm

Committee introductions and reviewed by-laws. The committee decided no changes were needed.

Matt Zimmerman the Heavy Equipment & Operations Management teacher at AAHS gave an overview of the new Heavy Equipment & Operations Management course. There are currently 24 students enrolled. It's taken 3 years to get it up and running. Strong industry support. Equipment is located on the 2 acre parcel on the south end of AAHS. There is an application process for students who are really interested in pursuing a career in heavy equipment. Next year hoping to expand beyond the 24 current students. Work ethic and professionalism is something they talk about daily. Emphasis on safety and smooth operation. Curriculum is based on all aspects from site prep to operating. He wants to give the students the most time to operate while the weather is good. Year one project will be to build a berm. They worked with a local surveyor to show the students all aspects of land preparation. Students take care of all the equipment, they have a checklist they go through everyday. Some additional things they will be partnering with will be to bury some fake utility lines so teach students how to dig around utilities. In the winter, they will work in the small engines lab and learn a variety of different mechanical tasks and do some career exploration.

The question was asked if he had to drop any of his small engine classes, he said he did but instead of telling students they couldn't take it he grew the size of his small engine classes. Out of the students he currently has only about 10% of them had ever operated a piece of equipment. Big Lake is the only other school in MN with this type of program.

Carlos C.A.R.D.I.N.A.L Academy - Stephanie Groetsch, Kristin Ziemer and Nikki Burkey. Pre -K through 5 would be a learning academy. Modern 4 day school day schedule plus a few Fridays throughout the year to maintain equal amounts of learning time. No two hour late starts By extending their learning day it gives the students more choice. May not need after school care as their day will be a little longer. Hoping to reduce the amount of time students are gone by having a longer weekend. Need to do something different to attract/retain students at Carlos and APS.

Rick presented the Capital Projects Levy to the committee. In June Board approved with unanimous approval to move ahead with the Capital Projects Levy. \$3 million for the next 10 years. If approved, the levy will provide funding for safety and security improvements, replacing outdated technology to reduce time troubleshooting in the classroom and critical facility updates to parking lots, HVAC systems, playgrounds and outdoor athletic facilities at middle and high school.

Meeting concluded at 6:35 pm.