



Classical Charter School Language Committee
3310 N. Durkee St.; Appleton, WI 54911
Phone: (920) 997-1388; Fax: (920) 997-1390
www.classicalcharter.com

LANGUAGE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 7th, 2016, 3:45- 5:15 pm
Classical School Room 122

- ❖ Attendance -
Stacey Foley, Tom Bomann, Anna Cihlar, Sarah Roe, Nancy Fischer, Joanne Bielmeier, and Kiran Chawla
- ❖ Approved board minutes from the December 8th, 2015 World Language Committee Meeting.
- ❖ Latin pronunciation determination: Classical vs. Ecclesiastical
 - Online Academy starts with Ecclesiastical pronunciation and then switches later. In Volume1 and Volume2 both pronunciations are used. High Schools use Classical pronunciation.
 - Ecclesiastical pronunciation has the least change for our students, it is more pleasing to the ear. Concern is that adult teachers who want to learn Latin won't find a source for Ecclesiastical pronunciation (EP). Teachers want to teach Latin and enroll in courses, need to have some EP online courses, and perhaps staff could collaborate to determine pronunciation.
 - Leaning towards EP; teachers need to go more in depth than students, it is a concern, if only version for teachers is Classical pronunciation. Nancy to look for resources
 - Latin training would be about 15 min/wk, teachers to decide as to when to teach Latin in their day.
 - Reservations of pulling out Shurley Grammar, if Shurley grammar is eliminated from Grades 5-6, need to find a way to plug in the missing elements. The writing committee is looking at the sequence as to what might be missing and looking of ways of plugging in appropriately.
 - Concern is that we are held to standards in the book, with repeated teaching, teachers come up with their own materials to plug in the gaps, leads to inconsistency and a challenge for new teachers.
 - There is not a lot of carryover from Shurley Grammar and Spelling into writing, especially in older students.
 - Latin instruction is too abstract for younger grades, Spanish is vocabulary heavy as well, games and arts should be used rather than direct teaching of grammar.
 - K-3 grade will not be deleting any part of the curriculum, but adding Latin to the curriculum, sometimes experienced teachers may overdevelop pieces of curriculum, but they have to make it fit.
 - K-2 grade is easier to add, history book adds time during the day, realization of teachers on their own regarding the transition, the committee is not equipped to recommend Unit plans.
 - Memoria Press provides a slow introduction for our school. Would require teacher training, keyboarding exercises for students, possibly a summer activity.
 - Materials handed out in April need to be looked at, some pronunciation was inconsistent, also all suggested activities do not have to be done.
 - Can fit Latin jingle to the day, provide K-3 grade teachers with materials, if EP teacher resources are available.
 - Greek/Latin roots take a chunk of time in 4th-6th grade, about 30 - 45 minutes/week, and 35 minutes to take the test.
 - Ask teachers about time required to spend on K -3 grade Latin materials. For Kindergarten, lessons 1 - 10 should be doable in one year.
 - The goal is not for mastery of material, but rather exposure and repetition.
 - Have materials to the teachers ahead of time, during the next meeting, plan for K-3 grade teachers to meet with the Language Committee to formulate a plan.
 - Provide everyone with the K-3 materials via email ahead of time to digest the information.
 - Assumption is that EP pronunciation will be used.
 - Action items:

- Nancy will collaborate with K-3 grade teachers regarding concerns about materials.
- Joanne to investigate teaching opportunities.
- By January 14th, send any training materials or opportunities to Joanne.
- By January 15th, send the materials to the teachers to review along with an email gathering feedback if materials make educational sense for their grade level, expectation is to teach Latin for a max of 30 minutes/week, address any grave concerns with Nancy, no expectation of mastery, rather ear familiarity. Short repeated bursts of knowledge are good.
- Language committee to meet with the K-3 teachers on February 4th before the staff meeting from 3:00 - 3:30 p.m.

❖ Public comment - None

Conclusion

- ❖ Next meeting : February 4th before the staff meeting from 3:00 - 3:30 p.m.