

**South Middleton Board of School Directors – Curriculum and Instruction Committee Meeting Notes
Monday, February 5, 2018 – 6:00 PM**

- 1. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Stacey Knavel, Chair with the following committee members present: John Greenbaum, Chris Morgan, Elizabeth Meikrantz, Randy Varner (ex-officio), Angie Fisler (Rice), Jen Chamberlin (YBMS) and Tracy Mersch (BSHS). Committee member Caitlin Miletto (IF) was absent. Staff members Bruce Deveney, Joe Mancuso, Tricia Reed and Chris Monasmith were also present.
- 2. New Student Information System (SIS) to Replace MMS** – After several months of research, Mr. Monasmith recommended Sapphire K12 to replace MMS. He provided the attached presentation outlining his recommendation and proposal for implementation.

Discussion items included:

- Inadequate MMS user support, limited integration between systems and the desire to consolidate processes is driving the move from MMS to a new SIS.
- Mr. Monasmith reviewed Skyward (price was too high) and Power School (doesn't follow PIMS) before recommending Sapphire K12.
- The cost of Sapphire will be on par with MMS because Sapphire has agreed to spread the implementation costs over four years.
- Sapphire is a Pennsylvania company which should allow for easier training and support.
- Several surrounding schools also use Sapphire K12.
- Training for administrators and guidance counselors (12-month employees) will occur over the summer. Training for teachers, nurses and special education staff would occur on 8/20.
- Committee members expressed concern over the limited training for teachers, nurses and special education staff just a few days before they are expected to “go-live” with students arriving for the start of school. Mr. Monasmith noted that a cross-section of staff at each building would be viewing Sapphire on 2/8, and that he would be happy to share the post-session survey results. Summary and detailed survey results were provided to the board committee members on 2/9. Summary results were forwarded to the remaining members of the committee and are attached to these minutes.

The committee recommends that the board approve signing a contract with Sapphire. However, based on survey results, the committee strongly recommends that the administration revisit the training plan to provide earlier staff access and increased on-site user support.

- 3. Next Meeting** - February 26, 2018 @ 6:00 PM

- *Respectfully submitted by Stacey Knavel, 2/10/18.*