

BOARD OF EDUCATION, NEW FAIRFIELD, CT
Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting

Name of Subcommittee: Curriculum

Meeting type: Regular

Date of Meeting: 4/27/26

Minutes submitted by: Kris Woleck

Members present: Kathy Baker, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer, Amy Johnson

Members absent:

Other attendees: Ken Craw, Kristine Woleck, James D'Amico, Karen Gruetzner, Allyson Story, Christine Haddad, Ed Sbordone

Meeting Access: Curriculum Subcommittee (4/27/26 at 7:00 p.m.)

Web: <https://zoom.us/j/96879252389> Dial In: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 968 7925 2389

Meeting called to order: at 7:01 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 23, 2026 - Regular

Motion: To approve the minutes of March 23, 2026, as presented

Made by: Amy Johnson

Seconded by: Greg Flanagan

Recording of vote: All in favor

III. INFORMATION / ACTION ITEMS

A. Global Leadership Summit Student International Trip Proposal - Assistant Superintendent Kristine Woleck and Media Specialist Christine Haddad shared a proposal for an international student trip to Budapest, Krakow, and Prague for July 2027. Organized through Education First (EF), the trip aligns with 9th and 10th-grade Social Studies and English curricula, featuring a visit to Auschwitz and an opportunity for students to participate in student leadership workshops with a keynote by Malala Yousafzai in Prague. The committee discussed the cost (\$5400), mandatory insurance, cancellation policies, and student eligibility requirements. Questions were raised regarding the keynote speaker and whether male students would be interested in the trip.

Motion: To approve the trip for consideration by the full Board

Made by: Amy Johnson

Seconded by: Greg Flanagan

Recording of vote: 3-1 Motion passes

In favor - 3 Amy Johnson, Greg Flanagan, Kathey Baker

Opposed - 1 Sue Huwer

B. 9-12 Assessment Practices Update (Curriculum / Instruction goals) - The subcommittee reviewed the philosophy and protocols surrounding assessment redos and retakes at the High School level. Principal James D'Amico reviewed the philosophy and expectations of assessment from the NFHS Staff Handbook. He explained that assessments are used as feedback tools within a vertically aligned system to ensure students master essential skills before moving forward. The Staff Handbook serves as the primary guide for these procedures, emphasizing that grading should reflect a student's ultimate growth and understanding rather than penalizing the learning process. He outlined the strategies that teachers utilize with regard to retakes and redos. There is typically additional work that the student must undertake to demonstrate that they have continued to work with the material and this is an opportunity that is time-bound and requires the effort of the student.

C. MTSS Overview (Curriculum / Instruction goals) - Kristine Woleck presented the MTSS framework, a state-mandated, three-tiered approach designed to provide targeted academic and behavioral support. Tier 1 focuses on high-quality core instruction for all students, Tier 2 provides targeted small-group interventions, and Tier 3 offers intensive individualized support. The process is iterative, with a team meeting regularly to review "rate of growth" and progress monitoring data to decide if interventions should be adjusted or if a student should be evaluated for a disability. The committee discussed summer resources for families and the importance of early identification to ensure no student "slips through the cracks."

IV. OTHER - The meeting concluded with a brief period for other business and future agenda items, during which no new topics were introduced. Amy Johnson thanked the curriculum team for their comprehensive updates and ongoing efforts to support student growth across the district

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Made by: Amy Johnson

Seconded by: Greg Flanagan

Recording of vote: All in favor

Meeting adjourned at: 8:09 p.m.