



Student Achievement Committee
January 18, 2023
MINUTES- DRAFT

Present: Catherine Carbone, Michael Dietter, Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Carly Fortin, Jeremy Gervais, Kristen Giantonio, Sara Hale, Michael Higgins, Jaime Rechenberg, Azra Redzic, Jillian Romann, Todd Sturgeon, Melanie Vetrano, Leszek Ward, Pete Wininger

Call to Order:

Commissioner Sturgeon called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

Decision: Approval of Minutes from December 21, 2022 meeting:

On a motion made by Kristen Giantonio and seconded by Todd Sturgeon, it was unanimously;

VOTED: To approve the Minutes of December 21, 2022.

Information: 2023-2024 Program of Studies:

Mr. Pete Wininger, Principal of Bristol Central High School, presented a new webpage version of the Program of Studies for course selection. This new version allows students and parents to quickly access course information. The webpage also includes a tutorial on the site to make it easier to access the resources. Students will still have individualized meetings with their school counselors to guide them on which courses to take.

Questions and discussion followed.

Information: CT Automatic Admissions Program:

Mrs. Carly Fortin, Director of Teaching and Learning, presented a new program that will be available, starting with the high school class of 2023 students. Participating Institutions include the CT State Colleges, Mitchell College, University of Bridgeport, University of New Haven, University of St. Joseph, Goodwin University, and CT State Community College. This new program will allow students to be automatically accepted into these colleges if they meet the schools' GPA threshold. The CAAP GPA is different from a student's regular high school GPA. This will be an unweighted GPA and should only be used for CAAP purposes. Students who meet the GPA requirements will fill out a simplified, free application and will automatically receive an acceptance letter and details about financial aid.

Questions and discussion followed.

Information: Update on CSDE K-3 Reading Legislation:

Mrs. Azra Redzic, Elementary Humanities Supervisor, presented an update on the K-3 Reading Legislation. The CT General Statutes mandates that each board of education implement, for the 2023-24 school year and each year thereafter, a reading curriculum model or program for Pre-K to Grade 3, inclusive, that has been reviewed and recommended pursuant to C.G.S. 10-14ii. However, we may request a waiver to implement a different curriculum model. Bristol Public Schools created its own elementary ELA curriculum and uses some additional programs to create a comprehensive BPS structured block. BPS will be applying for the waiver.

Questions and discussion followed.

Decision: Curriculum Preview- Rising Educators 1:

Dr. Jaime Rechenberg, Secondary STEM Supervisor, presented a new curriculum for the Bristol high schools. The Rising Educators 1 course is structured as a career pathway for students interested in teaching or other careers in education.

Questions and discussion followed.

On a motion made by Commissioner Giantonio and seconded by Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula, it was unanimously;

VOTED: To move the new Rising Educators 1 curriculum forward to the full Board of Education for approval.

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Sturgeon adjourned the meeting at 7:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Katlyne Laprise

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