

# Woodbridge Board of Education Curriculum Committee

January 21, 2021

Via WebEx <https://woodbridgeps.webex.com/woodbridgeps/j.php?MTID=m4e36613fb870454b9e85e25f9f15f20a>

Meeting Number (access code): 146 074 0169 Meeting Password: MXbSyFb4Y53

**CALL TO ORDER:** Dr. Strambler, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Dr. Michael Strambler, Chair; Daniel Cowan, Lynn Piascyk, Maegan Genovese, Dr. David Ross, Joyce Shavers, Lor Ferrante Fernandes, Board members; Dr. Jonathan Budd, Superintendent; Analisa Sherman, Principal; Mary Vincitorio, Kim Franklin, Teachers; Ruchi Jain, PTO.

Dr. Strambler called the meeting to order (4:35 PM).

Discussion among Board members ensued for use of Zoom versus WebEx and the various costs associated with each. There was general consensus that Zoom would be preferable.

Public Comment – Ruchi Jain: PTO representative was hopeful that if there is a school-based curriculum committee that the PTO could participate in the actual dialogue and requested that school curriculum be listed on the district website.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Budd outlined an Administrative Book Study that will occur with the administrators on two books in particular: *Finnish Lessons 3.0* by Pasi Sahlberg. What “new mindsets” can we learn from the Finns? Also, *Developing Inviting Schools* by William Purkey, John M. Novak and Joan R. Fretz. The primary focus will be to ascertain what we can learn and “do the people, places, policies, programs and processes add to or subtract from the primary goals of making this school a better place for people”.

Dr. Budd and Ms. Sherman presented an overview on the resources for learning inclusive of a snapshot of individualized classroom data. Recent resource additions include the use of Lexia (PK-5), Symphony Math, Epic, Raz Kids, Tumble Books and Xtra Math in support of identification / assessment of student achievement progress and growth individually as well as across grade levels. Remote Learning updates include:

1. Appointment of a fully remote team leader to enhance communication.
2. Effective use of break out rooms modeled to all faculty.
3. Use of two Language Arts teachers to provide ongoing support to fully remote learners.
4. Selection of a Coach to provide professional development support to all teachers with an initial focus on:
  - a) Synchronous and asynchronous learning strategies, skill reinforcement and homework.
  - b) Specific learning and application of Flipgrid and Jamboard.
5. Wellness and other activities are provided to students by school psychologist, social worker and others.
6. Live special area instruction by specialists will commence shortly.
7. Ongoing parent/guardian communication through newsletters, updates etc.

It was requested that specific student data assessing student growth over time be shared for both remote and in person settings. How are we capturing the best practices and how are we applying that knowledge. Is the adaptive technology reaching the student population with the most need. Will assessments provide information that determines the amount of learning loss for both in-person and remote learners. It was noted that the CSDE has mandated that all students participate in the spring state standardized assessments.

The district has been awarded a grant that will fund three full days of professional development for remote teachers with target emphasis on technology integration. In addition, the WEA Professional Development and Evaluation Committee has been expanded to approximately 12 members.

The next meeting will be February 18 at 4:30 PM.

Meeting Adjourned 6:09 PM