Woodbridge Board of Education Curriculum Committee Superintendent's Conference Room December 6, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Strambler, Chair called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM.

IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Michael Strambler, Chair, Lynn Piascyk, Dr. Lauren Francese, Erin Williamson (remote), Board Members; Vonda Tencza, Superintendent; Analisa Sherman, Principal; and Carson Echeverry, WEA Liaison.

Public Comment - None

<u>DARE Replacement Program</u> – DARE is no longer utilized as it requires a trained, working police officer, which our town could not support. Committee concerns were shared that the old program had unintended harmful effects on children. BRS previously utilized the revised program which had addressed these concerns. Administration shared what BRS is using now for resources and lesson scope and sequence, which addresses not only drugs and addiction but also internet safety, self-worth, responsible decision-making, and peer pressure. Research of surrounding districts in CT regarding program and materials usage, resulted in an overall observation that districts are combining resources for a 'home grown' curriculum that meets the individual school's needs. The Committee asked administration to investigate what research suggests produce negative effects toward children in this area, and what best practice strategies are, so that we are aligned.

<u>Math Update</u> – Administration shared that new resources are being implemented, differentiation is observed in classrooms, and communication strategies with parents have increased through the use of Class Dojo, class newsletters, and parent emails. No parent concerns to date have been shared. Math K-6 scope and sequence was reviewed and is posted on the district website under the *curriculum* tab.

<u>STEAM Update</u> – Classes are accessing the STEAM lab and lessons. The Committee reviewed examples of STEAM budget requests and administration's tiered approach to add new materials over the next few years to replace obsolete items.

Public Comment - None

Meeting Adjourned 5:10 PM