



Student Achievement Committee (Special Meeting)
September 1, 2021
MINUTES - DRAFT

Present: Catherine Carbone, Michael Dietter, Jennifer Dube, Carly Fortin, Kristen Giantonio, Molly Goodine, Mike Higgins, Kristen Peck, Shelby Pons, Jaime Rechenberg, Azra Redzic, Jillian Romann, Samantha Sarli, Melanie Vetrano, Allison Wadowski, Leszek Ward, Christopher Wilson, Pete Wininger

Call to Order:

Commissioner Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and reviewed the norms. Prior to next month's meeting, we will review an article from the Center of School Change, shared by Commissioner Wilson, and have a small discussion during the October meeting.

Approval of Minutes from June, 16 2021

On a motion made by Shelby Pons and seconded by Allison Wadowski, it was unanimously;

VOTED: To approve the Minutes of June 16, 2021.

Information: Extracurricular participation in athletics from 20-21:

Principal Higgins, Bristol Eastern High School and Principal Wininger, Bristol Central High School presented athletic participation data. It is important to note that the participation rates were down due to COVID-19. Carly Fortin added that the data is based on athletic participation not club participation. Bristol high schools don't yet have a formal system to track extracurricular club participation but will be working to implement a system this year.

Commissioner Giantonio requested more information and tracking on the adaptive programs.

Information: Colleges of Class of 2021:

Principal Wininger, Bristol Central High School, shared that 68% of the students chose a 2 or 4 year college experience after high school. Some highlights include Yale University and the University of Connecticut. Principal Higgins, Bristol Eastern High School, shared similar data in that 69% of students chose a 2 or 4 year college.

Decision: Revision of Biotechnology and Forensics:

Dr. Jaime Rechenberg, Secondary STEM Supervisor presented the curriculum revision. The revision came in a name change. Originally, it was known as biotechnology, and we have extended it to include Forensic Science. The Forensic Science curriculum has been enhanced and more robust.

On a motion made by Shelby Pons to move this to the full board with recommendation of approval and seconded by Kristen Giantonio, it was unanimously;

VOTED: To approve the Revision of Biotechnology and Forensics curriculum.

Decision: Revision of Physics:

Dr. Rechenberg presented the revision of the Physics curriculum. Physics has not been revised since before 2006. Bristol Public Schools wanted to make our Physics course inviting to students so that they could see the potential of the learning that could happen within our laboratory spaces.

On a motion made by Shelby Pons to move this to the full board with recommendation of approval and seconded by Kristen Giantonio, it was unanimously;

VOTED: To approve the Revision of Physics curriculum.

Decision: Revision of AP Biology:



Dr. Rechenberg presented the revision of the AP Biology curriculum. The College Board adapted their curriculum in 2018 and we decided to follow the AP guidance. The course provides students with a college-level foundation.

On a motion made by Kristen Giantonio to move this to the full board with recommendation of approval and seconded by Shelby Pons, it was unanimously;

VOTED: To approve the Revision of AP Biology curriculum.

Decision: Revision ECE Biology:

Dr. Rechenberg presented the revision of the ECE Biology curriculum. This course is equivalent to UConn's 1107 course. The students have the ability to earn three UConn credits or one Bristol credit. There are specific expectations that students have to meet in order to gain the three UConn credits.

Questions and discussion followed in regards to our teachers receiving additional education to teach an AP/ECE course.

On a motion made by Kristen Giantonio to move this to the full board with recommendation of approval and seconded by Shelby Pons, it was unanimously;

VOTED: To approve the Revision of ECE Biology curriculum.

Decision: Revision of Anatomy and Physiology:

Dr. Rechenberg presented the revision of the Anatomy and Physiology curriculum. In the past, we've run Anatomy and Physiology as an academic level course. Now, Bristol Public Schools has decided to make this a Challenge by Choice course. This term means that our course will meet the demands and needs for students wishing to receive accelerated credit, as well as meeting the needs for students to achieve academic level credit. Students can choose learning extensions to earn accelerated credit.

Carly Fortin shared that this is an equity move for Bristol Public Schools because all students are able to take this course and then decide, after they have begun their learning, if they want to pursue the accelerated credit.

On a motion made by Shelby Pons to move this to the full board with recommendation of approval and seconded by Kristen Giantonio, it was unanimously;

VOTED: To approve the Revision of Anatomy and Physiology curriculum.

Decision: Revision of K-2 Social Studies:

Azra Redzic, Elementary Humanities Supervisor presented the revision of the K-2 Social Studies curriculum. The revision was designed to ensure that all K-2 classrooms engage in high-quality Social Studies instruction and follows the CT SS and C3 frameworks. Mrs. Fortin highlighted that we did set aside our Title IV funds for the purpose of reinvigorating resource materials. There are a wide variety of reading levels that are a multi-cultural resource that reflects the diversity within our community.

On a motion made by Shelby Pons to move this to the full board with recommendation of approval and seconded by Kristen Giantonio, it was unanimously;

VOTED: To approve the Revision of K-2 Social Studies curriculum.

Questions and discussion followed regarding the positive robust additions to the revision.

Discussion: September Student Achievement Committee Date:

Discussion followed regarding meeting date conflicts. Mrs. Fortin shared that if we don't hold another meeting in September, we will post that the September Student Achievement Committee meeting is cancelled. It was agreed that the September meeting will be cancelled.

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Wilson adjourned the meeting at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Gabby Nicoletti

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