



**Student Achievement & Outcomes Committee  
December 18, 2024  
MINUTES - DRAFT**

*The minutes presented within this document are a summary of the discussion that took place at the Student Achievement Committee meeting. To view the meeting in its entirety and hear full reports please go to: [December 18, 2024 SAC Meeting Recording](#)*

PRESENT Committee members: Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Maria Simmons

ALSO PRESENT: Kimberly Culkin, Carly Fortin (Zoom), Sara Hale, Michael Higgins (Zoom), Laura Lanza, Azra Redzic (Zoom), Jillian Romann (Zoom), Commissioner Jennifer Van Gorder (Zoom), Leszek Ward, Iris White, Peter Wininger

**Call to Order**

Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Decision: Approval of Minutes from September 18, 2024 meeting:**

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

**VOTED: to approve the September 18, 2024 minutes.**

**Decision: Approval of Minutes from November 20, 2024 meeting:**

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

**VOTED: to approve the November 20, 2024 minutes.**

**Information: CT Physical Fitness Assessment Data**

Mrs. Sara Hale, Supervisor of Physical Education and Wellness, presented the district's physical fitness data for the 2023-2024 school year, highlighting a 96% participation rate and 54% passing all four fitness components. Improvements were seen across schools, with strategies like goal-setting for students, collaboration between health and PE teachers, and before-school programs to target specific fitness components. Families were involved through fitness calendars, and there are plans to integrate fitness results into PowerSchool for easier parent access. The meeting emphasized the importance of continuing to enhance both student performance and family engagement in physical fitness.

Questions and discussion followed.

**Decision: 2025 SAC Meeting Calendar Dates**

Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula presented the potential 2025 Student Achievement meeting dates.

*On a motion made by Commissioner Simmons and seconded by Commissioner*

*Fitzsimons-Bula, it was unanimously;*  
**VOTED: to approve the SAC Meeting Dates for 2025.**

**Decision: 25-26 High School Program of Studies**

Mr. Peter Wininger, principal at Bristol Central High School, presented the high school program of studies for the 2025-2026 school year.

Questions and discussion followed.

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

**VOTED: to move the 25-26 High School Program of Studies to the full Board of Education for approval.**

**Decision: Pottery 3 (New Course)**

Mrs. Hale presented the new curriculum, Pottery 3, a course building on skills learned in Pottery 1 and 2. The course will allow students to further develop their ceramic arts knowledge, focusing on self-expression and media exploration while preparing a portfolio. Key units include reviewing pottery techniques, working with open and closed shapes, and creating unique forms by combining hand-built and wheel-thrown components.

Questions and discussion followed.

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

**VOTED: to move the Pottery 3 Curriculum to the full Board of Education for approval pending a location confirmation for this course.**

**Decision: Improv Comedy (New Course)**

Mrs. Hale presented the new course curriculum, Improv Comedy which will be a part of the Acting Pathway at BAIMS. The course aims to help students develop foundational skills in improv, enhance creativity, and improve communication through theater games and performances.

Questions followed.

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

**VOTED: to move the Improv Comedy Curriculum to the full Board of Education for approval with the understanding that answers to these questions would be provided before the board meeting.**

**Decision: Found Object Art (New Course)**

Mrs. Hale presented the Found Object Art course as part of the 3D art pathway at BAIMS, designed to integrate new national core art standards. It emphasizes using discarded or unwanted materials to create art, helping students understand how altering these materials, like changing their color or assembling them in unique ways, can alter their perception and the viewer's perception.

Questions followed.

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

**VOTED: to move the Found Object Art Curriculum to the full Board of Education for approval with the understanding that answers to these questions would be provided before the board meeting.**

**Decision: 6-8 Wellness (Revision)**

Mrs. Hale presented the curriculum for middle school wellness which had not been updated since 2012, making it necessary to revise it in light of new Connecticut State standards and the National Health Education standards. The revision aligns with a shift to skills-based health education, which focuses on teaching life skills to help students make informed and healthy decisions. This approach is student-centered and emphasizes interactive, project-based learning rather than traditional knowledge-focused methods.

Questions and discussion followed.

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

**VOTED: to move the 6-8 Wellness Curriculum to the full Board of Education for approval.**

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula adjourned the meeting at 7:29pm.

Respectfully submitted,

***Katlyne Laprise***

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