

**MIDDLETOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

November 7, 2024

Zoom

5:30 PM

<p><u>Board of Education (BOE)</u> <u>Committee Members Present</u> Debra Guss, Committee Chair Liz Crooks, Committee member Adam Hayn, Committee member Sheila Daniels, BOE Chair Susan Owens, BOE member Harold Panciera, BOE member</p>	<p><u>Also Present</u> Dr. Stacey McCann, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Dawn Brooks, Principal Middletown High School (“MHS”) Rob Smernoff, Physical Education/Health Department Head (K-12) Bobbi-Jo Wathen, Director of School Counseling MHS Joyce Pawlak, President of Middletown Federation of Teachers Gisella Gandulla, Community member</p>
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1. **Call to order and Introductions:** Committee Chair Debra Guss called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and introductions were made.
2. **Update on K-5 Skills-Based Health Education:** Next, Mr. Smernoff provided an update on changes to the MPS K-5 Health curriculum to meet the new CT State standards, which require a skills-based approach to health education, including an example of how nutrition is taught in two MPS elementary schools, and highlighting how the interactive approach helps provide students with the skills to make informed decisions about their food choices. A discussion followed, which included the timing for integrating the standards at the middle and high school and the benefits of encouraging student engagement.
3. **ECE Course Offerings [2021-22; 2022-23; 2023-24]:** Ms. Wathen then provided an update on Early College Experience (“ECE”) classes at MHS, including an overview of the current classes, the enrollment process, including costs and registration dates, enrollment numbers and demographic data of the students, highlighting the strong student interest in these classes, especially the human rights and humanities classes. A discussion followed, including student achievement in these classes, how grades and credits transfer to the universities and plans for expanding offering in STEM classes.
4. **PIMF Grant** – Ms. Pawlak then reported that she had met with BOE members and Dr. McCann regarding the PIMF grant applications under the MFT contract, which support professional development that is generally not available through MPS. Ms. Guss then reported that they had selected 3 of 4 four submissions. A discussion followed during which it was noted that the grant application deadline had been extended to the Spring so teachers would have more time to submit applications, which is in line with the timing in previous years.
5. **Adjournment:** Committee Chair Debra Guss then adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.