

BOARD OF EDUCATION, NEW FAIRFIELD, CT
Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting

Name of Subcommittee: Curriculum

Meeting type: Regular

Date of Meeting: 1/22/24

Minutes submitted by: Sue Huwer

Members present: Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer

Members absent:

Other attendees: Ken Craw, Allyson Story, Karen Gruetzner, James D'Amico, Dominic Cipollone, Ed Sbordone

Meeting Access: Curriculum Subcommittee (1/22/24 at 7:00 p.m.)

Web: <https://zoom.us/j/95267000653> Dial In: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 952 6700 0653

Meeting called to order: at 7:00 p.m.

II. ELECTION OF CHAIR

MOTION: Made by: Greg Flanagan

Seconded by: Sue Huwer

To nominate Tim Blair as chair

Recording of vote: Aye – 3 Tim Blair, Greg Flanagan, Sue Huwer

Opposed – 1 Kathy Baker

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 27, 2023 – Regular Meeting

Motion: To approve the minutes of November 27, 2023

Made by: Greg Flanagan

Seconded by: Sue Huwer

Recording of vote: All in favor

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. World Language Presentation and Discussion - Dr. Craw gave a presentation on the World Language Program which is exploring offering foreign language instruction in Spanish and French daily in the middle school next year. Presently, these languages are taught every other day there. Thought is also being given to offering foreign language instruction at a future time in MHHS and Consolidated, with a .6 FTE instructor, with no start time frame in place. More research needs to be done before final recommendations are made for middle school as well as the lower grades. The goal of increasing instruction in middle school is to raise performance level to the medium to high intermediate level by the time a student graduates from high school. Presently, it is at the low to middle intermediate range. French, Spanish, Italian, Mandarin Chinese and Latin are taught at the high school level. Latin is being phased out due to low interest and enrollment.

B. Strategic Planning Update - Dr. Craw updated members on the Strategic Plan. On Feb 6-7, Judith Wilson, the Consultant, will conduct parent focus groups on campus as well as discussions with selected BOE members and staff.

C. Adaptive Physical Education - This agenda item was tabled. Maria Kennedy will address this at another time.

D. Reading Pilot Update - Allyson Story gave an update on the K-5 Reading Pilot Program. Instructors will meet this week to plan implementation. Two State-approved curriculum programs, Wit and Wisdom and Bookworms, aimed at improving comprehension, have been selected. Students in 3-5 will be divided into 3 groups: one to each of the piloted programs and the third to continue with the present TC units. The history section of each pilot program was selected to align with the present curriculum for consistency. In the end, one of the pilot programs will be selected based on student performance and teacher feedback.

V. ACTION ITEMS - none

VI. OTHER.

Motion to adjourn: Made by: Tim Blair
Recording of vote: All in favor

Seconded by: Susan Huwer
Meeting adjourned at: 7:55 p.m.