



Student Achievement Committee
June 21, 2023
MINUTES - DRAFT

*The minutes presented within this document are a summary of the discussion that took place at the Board of Education meeting. To view the meeting in its entirety and hear full reports please go to: [June 21, 2023 Meeting Recording](#) **Passcode:** \$att4\$n3*

Present: Ken Bagley, Catherine Carbone, Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Carly Fortin, Sara Hale, Maria Pirro-Simmons, Jillian Romann, Leszek Ward

Call to Order

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

Decision: Approval of Minutes from May 17, 2023 meeting:

On a motion made by Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula, the minutes will be brought to the next Student Achievement Committee Meeting.

PreK Math (Curriculum Revision):

Mrs. Jillian Romann, Elementary STEM Supervisor, presented that the PreK curriculum was last revised in 2015 and the new curriculum follows the CT Early Learning and Development Standards. This curriculum is designed around four strands: counting and cardinality, operations and algebraic thinking, measurement and data, and geometry and spatial sense. This curriculum also focuses on mathematizing the classroom by learning math concepts through science, art, and literacy connections.

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

VOTED: to approve the PreK Math curriculum revision.

6th Grade Exploratory Drumming- BAIMS (Curriculum Revision):

Mr. Kenneth Bagley, Supervisor of Fine Arts, presented the revised exploratory drumming course that will be available at BAIMS. Each exploratory course is 22 classes at 40 minutes each. These classes are meant to give students that are not in the concentration course an overview of the pathway so that all students get to explore all of the Encore pathways. The percussion exploratory course will consist of 4 units: Introduction to Percussion Technique, Introduction to Bucket Drumming, Introduction to African Drumming, and Introduction to Drum Set.

Questions and discussion followed.

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

VOTED: to approve the 6th Grade Exploratory Drumming curriculum revision.

7th Grade Exploratory Piano- BAIMS (Curriculum Revision):

Mr. Bagley presented the curriculum revision for the exploratory piano course at BAIMS. The course will consist of 5 units: Introduction to Playing Piano, Orientation to the Staff, Bass Clef notes, 3rds (skips) on the Staff, and Eighth Notes.

Questions and discussion followed.

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

VOTED: to approve the 7th Grade Exploratory Piano curriculum revision.

Information: Acting for Camera and Voice:

Mr. Bagley presented the new high school course at BAIMS, Acting for Camera and Voice. This course will introduce students to the fundamental skills and theories of acting for the camera. Further emphasis will be given to developing the voice skills to be able to do voice-over work, including dialect and accents. Students will eventually perform in front of their peers and share their created projects. This new course will consist of 5 units: Introduction to Vocal Acting, The Voice Actor, Intro to Film Analysis, Acting for the Camera, and The Final Project.

Questions and discussion followed.

Information: Playwriting:

Mr. Bagley presented the new high school course at BAIMS, Playwriting. This course will introduce students to dramatic writing for the stage. This course will include scene and dialogue craft exercises, developing strong characters and narrative structures, critical reading of plays, and responding constructively to other students' work. Students may be required to create and perform original scenes at the end of the course. Students will also be able to submit their play for consideration in the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's Young Playwrights Festival. The course will consist of 3 units: What is a play?, One Acts, and Young Playwrights Festival.

Grades 6-8 Physical Education (Curriculum Revision):

Mrs. Sara Hale, Supervisor of Physical Education and Wellness, presented a revision to the middle school physical education curriculum. This curriculum revision focuses on physical fitness, lifetime activities, individual activities, team games, and cooperative games. Looking at the curl-ups, pushups, 20 meter pacer, and the sit and reach testing data from the last few years, it was noted that the number of passing students has seen a downward trend. This revised curriculum not only has an entire unit that is dedicated to physical fitness, but the team decided to ensure that all units will have an encompassing theme of physical fitness, connected to the physical fitness assessment, embedded in each lesson. Something new that was added to the curriculum is a family overview link. This overview will be sent out to families before each unit begins and allows families access to a snapshot of what their child will be participating in PE class in the next few class sessions.

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

VOTED: to approve the Physical Education curriculum revision for grades 6-8.

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Fitzsimons-Bula adjourned the meeting at 7:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Katlyne Laprise

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