

**MIDDLETOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

**October 9, 2025**

**Zoom**

**5:30 PM**

<b><u>Board of Education (BOE)</u></b> <b><u>Committee Members Present</u></b> Debra Guss, Committee Chair Adam Hayn, Committee member Elizabeth Crooks, Committee member	<b><u>Also Present</u></b> Colleen Fitzpatrick, Interim Chief Academic Officer Scot Peaslee, Steam Department Head (6-12)
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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. **Physics C Course Proposal:** Next, Mr. Peaslee provided an overview of a proposed AP Physics C: Mechanics Class, highlighting that the course is a calculus-based college level physics course, which is especially appropriate for students planning on majoring in physics or engineering in college. Mr. Peaslee further noted that students majoring in these fields could potentially receive college credit for the course in their major but that ultimately such a decision would be determined by the college. Mr. Peaslee then discussed some additional challenges for introducing the course, including the cost of training a teacher and the impact on enrollment in the AP Physics I course. A discussion followed during which the Committee members discussed the costs and benefits in more detail and then recommended that the course be moved forward to the full Board for approval.
3. **JROTC Presentation Review:** Next, Ms. Fitzpatrick provided an overview of a presentation from a member of the Middletown community discussing the JROTC program and what would be required to bring the program to Middletown, highlighting that she had pulled together a committee of stakeholders, including central office staff, MHS administration and guidance staff and a BOE member, Ms. Crooks, to review the program. Ms. Fitzpatrick then provided a high-level summary of the classroom and teacher requirements, cost-sharing formula with the Federal Government, application process and potential benefits for our students. Ms. Fitzpatrick then reported that due to the many potential benefits, the plan was for the district to move ahead with a further analysis of the feasibility of the program. A discussion followed during which additional benefits for our students were highlighted, including STEM funding, classroom content, community service experience, leadership skills and physical fitness requirements. Ms. Crooks also highlighted the positive impact on marginalized students that she observed from the program in New Britain. Following additional discussion, the Committee members expressed their support for the district to continue its feasibility analysis.
4. **Adjournment:** Committee Chair Debra Guss then adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.