

BOARD OF EDUCATION, NEW FAIRFIELD, CT
Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting

Name of Subcommittee: Curriculum Meeting type: Regular
Date of Meeting: 8/24/20 Minutes submitted by: Dominic Cipollone
Members present: Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Rick Regan, Stephanie Strazza
Members absent:
Other attendees: Julie Luby, Alyce Misuraca
Meeting Access: Curriculum Subcommittee (8/24 at 7 p.m.)
Web: <https://zoom.us/j/94459125345> Dial In: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 944 5912 5345

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. May 18, 2020 – Regular Meeting

Motion: To approve the minutes of May 18, 2020 as presented

Made by: Rick Regan

Seconded by: Greg Flanagan

Recording of vote: All in favor

III. ACTION ITEMS - none

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Math Update - Julie Luby shared that mathematics curriculum units of study will be piloted in late September. Alyce Misuraca said the decision to choose a curriculum will happen after January. Julie indicated that state assessment take place in the spring and the SAT will happen as well. Greg Flanagan asked if the PSAT will happen and it was confirmed by Julie. Greg also voiced concern regarding the comfort level of the district in choosing math curriculum by January. Stephanie Strazza asked if the lack of math coaches in K-8 will undermine the math program. Julie indicated that the topics selected for the pilot will be the ones teachers are comfortable teaching. The curriculum piloted in K-5 will be Bridges and Envision, and in 6-12 will be Envision and Illustrative math.

B. Two Potential New High School Courses – Two courses were discussed. They include an English elective on Black Studies and a Social Studies course on Black and Latino studies, and this course will be a yearlong course and a state requirement. Greg asked if we will have to offer these courses by the 2022-23 school year and Julie said we will need to get these courses approved.

C. Preliminary AP Score Information - Julie shared information regarding how our students did on AP exams this past school year. The percentage of students who scored a 3 or better this year was 75% which was an 9% increase from last year.

D. Reopening Plan Questions/Discussion as Needed - Julie shared information regarding the district's reopening plan and Stephanie shared that she felt community members were comfortable with the plan. Julie and Alyce shared that lower class sizes in the early grades will allow for more time with reading groups. Julie explained some of the professional development that staff would receive the four days prior to students attending include trauma-based instruction PD, anti-bias work, and formative assessment work at the high school, training in food allergy awareness, and work on room and zoom. Rick asked about extra-curricular activities and was wondering if a decision has been made on allowing the marching band to practice in a similar way like sports programs are

doing. Greg asked what will happen when Zoom crashes. Julie said we have google meet as a backup. Julie and Alyce shared information on a district site that was created where all things instructional will be housed for teachers and staff. It is the NFPS Teaching and Learning Site.

V. OTHER - Greg shared his support for using a series of books by Bill O'Reilly that focus on key historical figures and events in history. He shared that they are fun to read and extremely informative.

Motion to adjourn: Made by: Greg Flanagan
Recording of vote: All in favor

Seconded by: Rick Regan
Meeting adjourned at: 8 p.m.