

Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday, January 7, 2026, 5:30 PM
Central Office

I. Call to Order

Goal-
Attachment:
RecommendedMotion

II. Public Comment

Goal-
Attachment:
RecommendedMotion

III. Approval of Minutes—December 3, 2025

Goal-
Attachment:
RecommendedMotion

IV. Monthly Assistant Superintendent Report

Goal-
Attachment:
RecommendedMotion

V. New Textbook Approvals:

- AP Statistics
- AP Biology

Goal-
Attachment:
RecommendedMotion

VI. Program of Studies and Course Selection

Goal-
Attachment:
RecommendedMotion

VII. Other

Goal-
Attachment:
RecommendedMotion

VIII. Adjournment

Goal-
Attachment:
RecommendedMotion

GRANBY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Granby, Connecticut
Wednesday, December 3 - 5:30 p.m.
Curriculum Subcommittee Minutes

PRESENT: Subcommittee members: Liz Barlow, David Peling, Ed.D, Andrew Billig
ALSO PRESENT: Assistant Superintendent Jenn Parsons

- I. Call to Order and Welcome:**
The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.
- II. Public Comment:**
There was no public comment this evening.
- III. Approval of Minutes:**
Dave Peling motioned to approve the [minutes](#) of the November 5 2025 meeting of the Curriculum Subcommittee. Liz Barlow seconded the motion, with Andrew Billig abstaining. There was no discussion. Motion passed at 5:31 pm.
- IV. Assistant Superintendent's Monthly Report:**
Jenn Parsons provided an update on the district leadership team. Her report is linked [here](#):
- V. English Curriculum Update:**
 - IV.A. Approval of 3 new English 12 Electives**
Recap of the prior discussion of the new English 12 electives occurred, and the process of building "shells" of courses that can be used to build electives around different themes.
Asst Sup Parsons shared a letter proposed to send to parents regarding the new courses, and shared that Department Chair Carolyn Weiser will visit all English classes to review the options prior to course registration. The group discussed the need for more clarity for parents as to the mature content of some of the book choices.
Dave Peling motioned that the Curriculum Subcommittee approve the shell courses Myths and Monsters, Dystopian and Post-Apocalyptic Fiction, and From Damsels to Daredevils, with the provision that the committee revisit the program of studies, the final book list, and the process for parental notification once the courses have been fully developed.. Liz Barlow seconded. All voted in favor with no discussion. Motion carried at 6:10 pm.

VI. **Textbook Approval:**

A new AP Statistics textbook review was on the agenda for this meeting. New materials must be purchased in some form as the old book is no longer approved by the College Board. The committee asked about whether the teachers prefer an online resource or a printed textbook for this course, and if online-only materials may be available or less costly. This matter was tabled until the January meeting pending the answer to these questions.

VII. **Curriculum Review Cycle:**

Asst Superintendent Parsons reviewed the curriculum review cycle and where each department is within the schedule. Committee members commended her and her team for their thoughtfulness and organization of this cycle.

VIII. **School Climate Legislation Update:**

Asst Superintendent Parsons reviewed the climate data and bullying reports, and the proactive school climate interventions currently in place. Report can be accessed [here](#).

IX. **Adjournment:**

Liz Barlow motioned to adjourn, seconded by Dave Peling. All voted in favor with no discussion. Motion carried at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Barlow
Chair, Policy and Curriculum Subcommittee



Date: January 7, 2026

To: Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee of the Granby Board of Education

From: Jennifer M. Parsons, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Subject: January Monthly Update

School Climate

In December I provided an update on recent school climate legislation changes to the board of education and SEPTO. As mentioned in those presentations, schools have been analyzing their school climate data, meeting with their school climate teams and drafting improvement plans. These plans were posted online prior to the end of December. Additionally, a small team has been working to operationalize the use of the Challenging Behavior reporting and response forms. Schools will review and implement protocol for this in the new year. Given the legislative changes, we will be developing a series of parent communications to share with families and the community in the new year. In the meantime, schools are working to implement minor and major behavior systems as well as positive reinforcements. Behavioral and attendance data is monitored to inform instruction and decision making. It is important to remember that while “challenging behavior” and “bullying” may have specific definitions, any and all behavior will be addressed when observed or reported.

Secondary Scheduling

As we work to revise and monitor the secondary schedules, we are implementing year one goals and beginning to plan the work on the goals for year two. We recently paused and surveyed staff on implementation and to ask if they have any ideas for moving forward. When our Scheduling Guiding Coalition met this month they reviewed the survey data and categorized the comments for discussion. We found a few areas for review in the category of district design and several tweaks that can be made at the building implementation level for the first goals: aligning the schedules and providing collaborative time within the school day. We ended the meeting by discussing how to move forward with the year two goals regarding interventions and student supports and scheduling classes to allow for maximum utilization.

Looking Forward

Time this past month has been spent looking forward to what the future holds for Granby students and staff. Not only have we been actively involved in strategic planning with the entire district leadership team, but we also spent time with a consultant compiling “ed specs” or educational specifications around a potential middle school renovation/rebuild. We meet with each team at the middle school to learn what educational needs would be for their spaces to meet the current instructional demands. I am confident that we have a comprehensive picture of what would be needed from the educational side should we move forward. Another way we have been looking forward has been to utilize grant funds (both Title IV and a competitive matching grant we were awarded) to start the design of the Innovation Space at Granby Memorial High School. We envision this classroom that attaches to the current technology education and broadcast studio to be a collaborative space for design thinking, interdisciplinary work and maker space type activities. Our College and Career Advisory Board, run by the Practical Arts Department at the high school, recently met with industry leaders and provided insight into what work spaces for the future should contain. We will be looking for additional funding sources and grants to augment this project.



**GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GRANBY, CONNECTICUT**

**RECOMMENDATION FOR A NEW TEXTBOOK
BOE CURRICULUM SUBCOMMITTEE**

Page 1: overview

Course: AP Statistics

Title of Book: The Practice of Statistics for the AP® Course

Publisher: BFW Publisher Author(s): Daren S. Starnes; Josh Tabor

Copyright date: 2025 Edition: Eighth

Cost per student edition: \$176.98 Quantity: 20

Cost per teacher edition: \$495.98 Quantity: 1

Budgeted item: \$4,035.58

Staff Endorsements: : Larry Auer (AP Stats Teacher) and Elyse Nevins (Math Dept Chair)

Other texts reviewed:

Title	Publisher	Copyright
N/A		

Reason a new text is requested: The current textbooks are outdated.

Reasons for this text selection: This is the most current edition of the Stats book that was recommended to the AP Statistics Teacher.

	0	1	2	3	4	5
To what extent do you agree with the following statements?						
Text focuses on major objectives of course.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Text reflects key concepts/big ideas from CT Frameworks/Curriculum.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Subject matter is geared to interest, ability, and needs of students.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Text utilizes grade appropriate ideas, concepts, skills, and vocabulary.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Critical thinking and problem solving strategies are evident.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Text suggests a variety of activities for multiple intelligences/learning styles	0	1	2	3	4	5
Suggested activities inspire creativity & extension where possible	0	1	2	3	4	5
Suggested activities encourage collaboration with other students.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Allows for ancillary exercises to develop mastery of concepts/skills.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Text, or support materials, include suggestions for both remediation and enrichment.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Text features improve and enhance clarity.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Text includes useful supports for students in appendix, glossary, or resource section.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Incorporates the use of technology for extension.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Written and pictorial content reflect the pluralistic, multi-ethnic nature of our society, both past and present.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Diversity and equity are represented throughout the text.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Content is relevant over a period of years (not quickly outdated).	0	1	2	3	4	5
Overall, this text will serve as a valuable resource to teachers and students.	0	1	2	3	4	5

GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GRANBY, CT

APPROVAL OF A NEW TEXT

Date _____

This text _____
Has been authorized by the parties who have signed below to be used in

(Course title, grade, or subject)

Assistant Superintendent Date _____

Chair of the Curriculum Subcommittee Date _____

Chair of the Board of Education (final approval) Date _____



**GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GRANBY, CONNECTICUT**

**RECOMMENDATION FOR A NEW TEXTBOOK
BOE CURRICULUM SUBCOMMITTEE**

Page 1: overview

Course:	Advanced Placement Biology		
Title of Book:	Campbell Biology in Focus		
Publisher:	Person	Author(s):	Urry, Cain, Minorsky, Hull, & Orr
Copyright date:	January 1, 2024	Edition:	Fourth
Cost per student edition:	\$185.60	Quantity:	25
Cost per teacher edition:	N/A	Quantity:	0
Budgeted item:	\$4,640.00		
Staff Endorsements :	Laura Heath (AP Biology Teacher) and Ryan Hunt (Sci Dept Chair)		

Other texts reviewed:

Title	Publisher	Copyright
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N/A

Reason a new text is requested: **College Board requires text books to have been published within the last 10 years. The currently used edition is 6 years old, and to purchase the quantity needed with our text book budget, we will need to buy them over a 2 year period. AP Chemistry is also going to need new textbooks within the next few years, so to make sure we have enough money to accommodate both classes (and AP Environmental Science), I figured we should start a purchasing cycle. That way, we can purchase new texts for each class to stay within College Board's requirements without having to overspend in any particular year.**

Reasons for this text selection: This is the most recent edition of the currently used text.

	0	1	2	3	4	5
To what extent do you agree with the following statements?						
Text focuses on major objectives of course.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Text reflects key concepts/big ideas from CT Frameworks/Curriculum.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Subject matter is geared to interest, ability, and needs of students.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Text utilizes grade appropriate ideas, concepts, skills, and vocabulary.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Critical thinking and problem solving strategies are evident.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Text suggests a variety of activities for multiple intelligences/learning styles	0	1	2	3	4	5
Suggested activities inspire creativity & extension where possible	0	1	2	3	4	5
Suggested activities encourage collaboration with other students.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Allows for ancillary exercises to develop mastery of concepts/skills.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Text, or support materials, include suggestions for both remediation and enrichment.	0	1	2	3	4	5
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Text includes useful supports for students in appendix, glossary, or resource section.	0	1	2	3	4	5
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Written and pictorial content reflect the pluralistic, multi-ethnic nature or our society, both past and present.	0	1	2	3	4	5
Diversity and equity are represented throughout the text.	0	1	2	3	4	5
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Overall, this text will serve as a valuable resource to teachers and students.	0	1	2	3	4	5

**GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GRANBY, CT**

APPROVAL OF A NEW TEXT

Date _____

This text _____
Has been authorized by the parties who have signed below to be used in

(Course title, grade, or subject)

Assistant Superintendent

Date _____

Chair of the Curriculum Subcommittee

Date _____

Chair of the Board of Education (final approval)

Date _____