

**Windsor Board of Education  
Curriculum Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 4:30 PM

Curriculum Committee - Virtual - Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87096279023> Join via audio: +1 646 558 8656 +1 301 715 8592 Webinar ID: 870  
9627 9023

Virtual Meeting  
Windsor, CT 06095

1. Call to Order, Pledge to the Flag and Moment of Silence

**Speaker(s):** A. Taylor

2. Audience to Visitors

**Speaker(s):** A. Taylor

3. Updated Civics Curriculum

**Speaker(s):** B. Fineman

4. Update on K-5 Reading Program

**Speaker(s):** M. Williams

5. Adjournment

**Speaker(s):** A. Taylor

# 04.29.2025

## Curriculum Sub-Committee

→ WHS Civics Curriculum



Presented by: Dr. Bonnie Fineman<sup>2</sup>

# Objectives

- Introduce the curriculum-writing team.
- Explain rationale for project.
- Review the definition of curriculum.
- Review contents of new curriculum map and units.
- Share next steps.
- Obtain feedback and answer questions.

# WHS Civics Curriculum

- [Curriculum Map](#)
- Curriculum Units
  - ◆ [Unit 1](#)
  - ◆ [Unit 2](#)
  - ◆ [Unit 3](#)
  - ◆ [Unit 4](#)

# Curriculum Team

- Ryan Bennett, Steve Marinelli, and Christine Fracasso
  - WHS Social Studies Teachers
- Dr. MJ Martinez
  - Humanities Supervisor
- Dr. Bonnie Fineman
  - Dir. of Arts & Humanities- Trainer/ Facilitator

# What is curriculum?

- Pinar (2019) explains that it is:
  - Prescription- all students that take a course have access to the same learning
  - Course of Study- takes students from “A to Z”
  - Experiential- creates a learning experience
- Ladson-Billings (1995), Muhammad (2020) and others specify that it should encourage intellectualism, relationship-building, and lived experiences.

# What curriculum is NOT?

- Lesson plans
- Lectures
- Textbooks/ books
- Only the voice of the teacher or curriculum designers
- Only from one perspective
- Facts without experiences

# Rationale for Project

- The study of civics is a critical element of a public school education- “democratic education” or “democratic core” (Beane & Apple, 2007).
- Civics is a requirement for graduation.
- There have been recent, rapid changes to fundamental institutions in the United States.
- We needed to explore new resources and texts, and update the standards.

# Changes to New Map- Civics

- Use a new model- *Open Up Resources*- to design templates for the map and units.
- Designed four units and modeled the course after AP Government and Politics.
  - Increased comprehensiveness, complexity, and depth.
- Updated overarching themes.
- Added Authentic Application Tasks (AATs) to all units.
- Aligned academics to SEL.

# Overview- Map

- [Curriculum Map](#)

# Overview- Units

- [Unit 1](#)
- [Unit 2](#)
- [Unit 3](#)
- [Unit 4](#)

# Next Steps

- Seek full BOE approval.
- Finalize and present US History course to sub-committee.

# BOE Members' Questions

- Add notes of questions/responses...



# Questions?

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