

Board of Education
Newtown, Connecticut
Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee

Minutes of the Board of Education Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee meeting held on January 13, 2015, 10:00 AM in the Board of Education Conference Room, 3 Primrose Street.

J. Vouros M. Ku L. Gejda A. Uberti A. Hall
 M. Hiscavich J. Gabriel

The Board of Education Curriculum and instruction Subcommittee Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

Motion: J. Vouros moved to accept the minutes of December 9, 2014. M. Ku seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Public participation: none

A. Uberti and A. Hall presented a “draft” to the subcommittee describing Reed Intermediate School Advanced Math Options. Their focus was on articulation and having parents understand the process of this advanced program offered to students in grades 5 and 6. Parents will be involved in knowing when the testing is taking place, and all parents will know the results
For those students extremely advanced in math it was stated that we must meet their needs, and address them earlier. A suggestion that advanced math should start in 4th grade, was mentioned. A. Uberti stated that we have been in a data void but with the second year of NWEA it will provide us with much needed information.

M. Hiscavich and J. Gabriel presented their new program application entitled “Unified Theater” to the subcommittee explaining that they have been awarded a grant to cover all expenses this year until June 2015. The intention is that this program begin as a club this year and then continue as a class next year. They are seeking Board approval to continue this activity into the 2105-2016 school year, offering this course both semesters.
The program provides an opportunity for students, who might not have this opportunity otherwise due to their special needs and circumstances, to be included in a theater program. There will be an interdisciplinary linking of the arts to academics and technical disciplines. This program supports our district’s core beliefs.

Motion: J. Vouros moved to bring “Unified Theater Arts “ program application to the Board.
M. Ku Seconded. Motion passes unanimously

L Gejda presented a new program application for all elementary schools titled "Kindergarten World Language: Immersion Class". All elementary principals are very supportive of this program that will consist of 30 minutes of weekly instruction in introductory Spanish following an immersion model. This program will be covered by a .5FTE position

Motion: J. Vouros moved to bring the new program application: "Kindergarten World Language: Immersion Class" to the Board. M.Ku seconded. Motion passes unanimously

M. Ku opened the discussion of a plan to review the K-12 Math program by handing our questions that would need to be answered and by whom. Update due Jan. 29, 2015.

It was suggested that students need to know prerequisites with parents having knowledge of what math courses are needed for sciences before their child enters high school .

L. Gejda mentioned that the "Program of Studies" booklet shows all of these prerequisites for sciences.

A request was made to invite all four Math/Science Specialist to attend the next C and I meeting to discuss what is happening in the classroom, to view the program, view skills and modules.

Discussion of the Baking and Pastry Curriculum was postponed until the next meeting .

Public participation: None

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Schaedler