Board Of Education Newtown, CT

Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee

Please Note: These minutes are pending Board approval

Minutes of the Board of Education Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee meeting held on May 12, 2015 at 12 noon in the Board of Education Conference Room, 3 Primrose Street.

M. Ku J. Vouros L. Gejda S. Dreger D. Michlovitz A. Marks

M. Ku called the meeting to order at 12 noon.

MOTION: M. Ku moved to approve the minutes of April 29, 2015. J. Vouros seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Public participation: none

L. Gejda introduced S. Dreger and D. Michlovitz who represent a team of physical education teachers that were involved with the writing of the K-4 PE Curriculum.

D. Michlovitz stated that the PE teachers are proud of their vision statement that physical education not only promotes wellness but believe that physical activity helps improve students with their academics along with their well- being.

He explained that modifications are done for those students with special needs and those with physical challenges and that students are grouped according to their abilities.

- D. Michlovitz mentioned how the new golfing program: "The First Tee" has added to the program. He explained how golf is the only sport that has no referee yet teaches life skills, taking turns, and honesty.
- S. Dreger stated that all elementary schools are doing the same activities and share equipment if necessary. In response to M. Ku's question about vertical alignment of the curriculum, S. Dreger stated that K-12 PE teachers would like very much to work together to align the curriculum, with the supervision of an administrator. One possibility would be on Election Day.

A.Marks, Chair of the Newtown High School English Department presented, for the second read, the three senior electives. Literary Perspectives on Sports, currently a pilot program has had very positive responses along with the other two electives Composition Through Contemporary Issues and Writing thru Film. She explained how the students film, edit and compose their own work, offering new perspectives and avenues.

MOTION was made by M. Ku to bring forward to the Board all three Senior Electives. J. Vouros seconded Unanimously approved.

A.Marks presented the English I, II and III curriculum and explained that it is a work in progress. Teams will be reworking and streamlining the current document during the summer work schedule. They're goal is to be sure that all freshman are doing the same work but not necessarily at the same time. Middle and high school language arts teachers will be visiting each others' english classes in the near future.

MOTION was made by M. Ku to bring forward to the Board Social Studies Gr. 5 and Grade 6 . J. Vouros seconded.

Public participation: none

Meeting adjourned: 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Beverly Schaedler