

Board of Education
Newtown, Connecticut
Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee

Minutes of the Board of Education Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee meeting held on September 9, 2014 at 10 a.m. Room One of the Municipal Building, 3 Primrose Street.

J. Vouros	Anne Uberti
M. Ku	Tom Einhorn
	Jeanne Cavallaro
	Drew Hall
	Linda Gejda

The Board of Education Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

Motion to accept the minutes of August 5, 2014 was made by M. Ku, seconded by J. Vouros , all in favor

Linda Gejda introduced the discussion about the advanced math curriculum, using a “pathways for Math Placement in Grades 5 through 8th worksheet.

Anne Uberti explained the Math Program at Reed . Grade 5 consist of Math 5 and Enriched Math 5. Both classes are using the Common Core Standards and the textbook “enVisions” as their primary resource. Enriched Math students move through “required” content faster based on students understanding and uses higher level application problems to deepen student understanding. The advanced 5th grade students rather than going faster will be going “deeper.” (Anne Uberti stated the textbook, “enVisions” was piloted and approved last year by the BOE and is going very well.)

Grade 6 Math follows the Common Core Standards and uses the texbook “enVisions” as their primary resource. Compacted 6/7 Math, follows Grade 6 Common Core Standards and four grade 7 Common Core Units and “ enVisions”.

Teachers are now teaching Math in their clusters. Students are no longer be pulled out.

When moving from Grade 5 to Grade 6 students are not locked in a path, they can move in and out based on growth and performance of collected data.

Before entering 5th grade children are screened/assessed by using NWEA, looking at their Module “Average”, DRP, Behavior Index and then presented with two problem solving problems involving geometry and a geometry based problem. This is done before being assigned to a math program.

It was suggested that having a 4th Grade parent meeting with Reed Staff would be helpful in explaining the identification process and math curriculum going forward.

During math specialist meetings it was suggested that minutes be taken as a way to keep administrators informed of any changes that may occur within the program. Communication between Reed and Middle School to prepare for incoming 7th graders is very important as is the elementary schools communicating with Reed.

Middle School Math Program consist of 7th Grade Math, 7th Grade Accelerated, 7th Grade Algebra I
8th Grade consists of Grade 8th Math, 8th Grade Enriched and 8th Grade Algebra.

Geometry is also offered to qualifying students.

Currently, there are 26 7th Grade students in this year's Algebra I class and 13 8th graders in Geometry.

Middle School is aware 90% of the time who and where students will be placed before entering 7th grade but a better determination is made in September since some students improve over the summer.

NWEA, along with SBAC, will be used as assessments tools.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.

Meetings Dates:

Sept. 23, 2014 12-1:30 pm

Oct. 14, 2014 10-11:30 am

Oct.28, 2014 10-11:30 am

Nov. 12, 2014 10-11:30 (Wed.)

Nov. 25, 2014 10-11:30