

Newtown Board of Education
Newtown, Connecticut
Curriculum and Instruction/SEL Subcommittee

D. Ramsey J. Vouros A. Uberti K. DiBartolo
C. Gilson

Minutes from the 1/23/2024 Curriculum and Instruction/SEL Committee meeting.

D. Ramsey called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.
D. Ramsey moved to approve the minutes from the 1/9/24 meeting.
J. Vouros seconded the motion.

Public Participation: None

K-5 Reading Update- A. Uberti, K. DiBartolo

- Program is EL Imagine and was implemented in the Fall.
- DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) and SEL (Social, Emotional, Learning) are integrated into the program.
- The program was implemented due to a mandate from the state of Connecticut.
- Developmentally appropriate.
- Creativity is built into the program.
- Science and Social Studies content is embedded in the program.
- The Assistant Superintendent and Director of Teaching and Learning meet with K-8 Language Arts Consultants monthly.
- Communication with teachers has been key – newsletters, emails, surveys, cross grade level meetings with Director of Teaching and Learning, and Language Arts Consultants attending and reporting on their own school's grade level PLCs.
- Progress reports at the elementary level were updated to reflect changes in instruction
- November professional development sessions to support initial implementation was a success.
- A follow-up session of professional development will take place in February with the same presenter from November working with each grade level K-5.
- All genres are embedded in both reading and writing
- Students are learning about different topics through purposeful units of study designed to build knowledge.

Assistant Superintendent Updates - A. Uberti

- iReady midyear testing is underway in grades 2-8. We are also piloting iReady in grade 1, math only. Results will probably be going out to families in about two weeks. Students in K-3 are

tested on foundational reading skills using DIBELS. Results will be mailed once testing is completed.

- Teachers and administrators have set goals for students on iReady and DIBELS. The midyear results will be shared and discussed in order to inform teaching.
- Kindergarten registration opened on January 8th. To date, 186 kindergartners registered. The projected number for kindergarten for next year is around 260. Of the 186, 32 will be 4 years old on September 1. Screening of all registered Kindergartners will take place in February at each of the four elementary schools.

Public Participation: None

D. Ramsey adjourned the meeting at 11:58 a.m.

J. Vouros seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Norling

THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES AND ARE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION/SEL COMMITTEE.