

**Board of Education
Newtown, Connecticut
Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee
AMENDED**

Minutes of the Board of Education Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee meeting held on September 23, 2014 at 12 p.m. Room One of the Municipal Building, 3 Primrose Street.

J. Vouros
M. Ku

A. SanAngelo
C. Dietter

S. Oliver
L. Gejda

The Board of Education Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee was called to order at 12:03 p.m.

MOTION: M. Ku moved to add the “acceptance of 7/26/2014 meeting minutes” to the agenda
J. Vouros seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: M. Ku moved to add “updates to the math curriculum, GATES and kindergarten updates” to the agenda . J. Vouros seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: M. Ku moved to add “election of subcommittee chair” to the agenda. J. Vouros seconded.
Motion passes unanimously.

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

MOTION: M. Ku moved to accept the minutes of July 26, 2014. J. Vouros seconded.
Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: J. Vouros made a motion to elect M. Ku for Chairperson of the Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Gejda introduced Andrew SanAngelo, 8th grade social studies teacher and NMS Social Studies Facilitator, Shari Oliver, 7th grade social studies teacher, and Candi Dietter, Department Chair of High School Social Studies.

S. Oliver described the 7th grade social studies curriculum Global American History I and A. SanAngelo spoke about the 8th grade curriculum, Global American History II. The 7/8 curriculum was written to be able to finish by the end of 8th Grade. New state standards and 21st century skills were included. Curriculum revision is an on-going process.

Mr. Vouros asked if technology at the middle school is adequate for research needs. S. Oliver stated that there has been a great improvement compared to last year. NMS has added two new computer labs plus the use of the iPad Cart.

C. Dietter spoke about African Studies and Latin American Studies, both one semester classes. Content areas have been updated to include state standards but not rewritten, at this time. Motion to move the African and Latin American studies forward with the additional objectives, social studies standards. M. Ku moved to accept. J. Vouros seconded.

Mr. Vouros asked if students coming from grades 5/6 were prepared for the middle school curriculum. It was stated that there have been some times in the past when some clusters at Reed were unable to complete the curriculum. Transition from Reed to Middle Social Studies curriculum will be looked at this upcoming year. Grade 8 and Grade 9 teachers are in communication preparing students for the high school.

Full-Day Kindergarten Update: Dr. Gejda reported that Kindergarten teachers met on Monday. They reported that, as first grade students this year, children are taking less time to settle in, demonstrate an increase in stamina, more are performing on goal, and they are writing more. K and 1st grade teachers will attend a BOE meeting to share the student schedules and activities.

Update on gifted program: The GATES (Gifted) program has started at Reed and middle school.

On Sept. 24th there will be a meeting to identify students for the elementary program followed by an informative parent meeting on Oct. 2 for student who are identified.

Update on math program: A meeting regarding the Algebra program at both Reed and middle School was held. Capable Grade 6th students will be prepared to take Gr. 7 Algebra, if appropriate.

M. Ku moved to adjourn. J. Vouros seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:34

Respectfully submitted:

Beverly Schaedler
Secretary