

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MIDDLE SCHOOL SHOWCASE MEETING
HELD AT DODD MIDDLE SCHOOL ON APRIL 7, 2022 AT 7:30 PM**

Board Members Present: Anthony Perugini-Chair; Adam Grippo-Vice Chair; Anne Harrigan-Secretary; Faith Ham, Andrew Martelli, Samantha Rosenberg, Timothy White

Board Members Absent: None.

Administrators Present: Jeffrey F. Solan, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools; Marlene Silano, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Vincent Masciana, Chief Operating Officer; Robin-Anne Carey, Director, Pupil Personnel Services; Mary Joscelyn-Gadd, Ed.D., Principal-Cheshire High School; Kristin Pelz, Assistant Principal-Cheshire High School; Maureen Reed, Ed.D., Assistant Principal-Cheshire High School; Daniel Tartarelli, Assistant Principal-Cheshire High School; Stephen Trifone, Athletic Director-Cheshire High School; Michael Woods, Principal-Dodd Middle School; John Perosino, Assistant Principal-Dodd Middle School; Katharine Carlucci, Assistant Principal-Chapman and Norton Schools; Kimberly Dessert, Principal-Darcey School; Amy O'Brien, Principal-Doolittle School; Kristin Lopa, Assistant Principal-Doolittle School; Kelly Grillo, Principal-Norton School; Erica Bordonaro-Assistant Principal-Highland Elementary School; Kevin Hanlon, K-8 Curriculum Coordinator; Christina Sherwood, Supervisor of Elementary Special Education; Marie Broadway, Supervisor of Secondary Special Education

1. CALL TO ORDER – 7:30 P.M.

- A. Roll for Quorum. The roll was called and a quorum determined.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
Mr. Perugini led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. MIDDLE SCHOOL SHOWCASE

Ms. Silano explained that the past June, a Curriculum Writing Institute was held in response to teachers requesting more time to collaborate with each other. Faculty were looking for more time to collaborate, revise and reflect on their curriculum. She said tonight, the Board will hear from Dodd teachers who were beneficiaries of the professional development. She introduced Dodd Principal, Michael Woods, who introduced the teachers who would be presenting: Tom Tuscano, Jenna Poeltl, Maria Mullally, and Kristen Shanley. He reported that teacher, Carlee Brandom, also collaborated with this group on the presentation but could not attend this evening.

The presentation began with Language Arts Teachers, Kristin Shanley and Maria Mullally, who both stated this was one of the best professional development trainings they have ever attended. They explained that at the institute attendees were taught the importance of choosing an authentic assessment to start off the curriculum design and then explained the process and tools used. Over the summer, their department used the tools learned to revamp their Grade 7 Argument Writing Unit. The teachers shared student writings that were the result of the training. In addition, the Grade 8 teachers redesigned their curriculum to make figurative writing more interesting to the students. The teachers shared student work of created found poems and engaged the Board in an activity to create their own found poem.

Next, Math teachers, Jenna Poeltl and Tom Tuscano explained that at the Curriculum Writing Institute they were able to engage with high school Algebra 1 teachers. They developed three authentic learning tasks: Quadratics: Catapults, Exponential Functions and Sequences: Mice Population, and Pythagorean Theorem: Echoes and Fencing. The teachers demonstrated the catapults that the students built and engaged Board members in the activity of launching, measuring time and distance, and then graphing the results.

Mr. Perugini thanked the teachers for the presentation. Dr. Solan and Ms. Silano said that they do plan to hold another institute this year.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mr. Grippo, and seconded by Ms. Ham, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony Perugini, Board Chair

Attest:

Carol K. Jesensky, Board of Education Clerk

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