

# Cheshire Public Schools



## Board of Education Curriculum Committee (Virtual)

**Monday, May 10, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.**

### Minutes

Committee Members Present: Faith Ham (Chair) and Anne Harrigan

Cheshire Public Schools Staff Present: Marlene Silano, Assistant Superintendent; Kevin Hanlon, K-8 Curriculum Coordinator; Dr. Mary Gadd, Principal - Cheshire High School (CHS); Dr. Maureen Reed, Assistant Principal - CHS; Ms. Leslie Paier, Business Department Chair - CHS; Ms. Lisa Bernabe, Mr. Stephen De Falco, and Mr. John Redford - Math department representatives - CHS

Community Members Present: None

**1. Public Comment**

No messages received from the public via the CPSCovid19 email address prior to the public comment portion of the meeting.

**2. [Review Minutes of April 19, 2021 Meeting](#)**

a. Ms. Harrigan made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 19, 2021 Board of Education Curriculum Committee meeting. Ms. Ham seconded the motion. Ms. Ham and Ms. Harrigan voted to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2021 meeting. The motion passed.

**3. New Business**

**4. Old Business**

a. Textbook Recommendation Change/Replacement

- Advanced Personal Finance Course paid for by Tunxis Community College
  - a. [PFIN, 7th Edition, by Randall Billingsley, Lawrence Gitman, and Michael Joehnk](#)

Ms. Leslie Paier, CHS Business Department Chair, presented an update to the textbook request for the Advanced Personal Finance course. The text covers the same essential material Tunxis Community College updated the textbook they are using for this course and will continue to pay for the text for Cheshire students enrolled in the course.

Ms. Harrigan made a motion to amend the textbook title for the Tunxis Community College Advanced Personal Finance Course: PFIN, 7th Edition, by Randall Billingsley, Lawrence Gitman, and Michael Joehnk . Ms. Ham seconded the motion. Ms. Ham and Ms. Harrigan voted to approve the motion. The motion passed.

**5. Informational Items**

**a. Update on District Wide Field Trips**

Marlene Silano, Assistant Superintendent, gave an update on the state of field trip requests for the district. There have been several requests for trips to places like Camp Sloper. The emphasis of many of these trips is to help foster team-building and bring students together in a way that has been difficult this year. Safety precautions and planning have been at the forefront of planning for each trip. While these trips do not typically come to the BOE Curriculum Subcommittee, the district wants to make the board aware that some field trips have resumed this year.

**b. Cheshire High School Schedule 2021-22**

Dr. Mary Gadd, CHS Principal, shared an update on the schedule for the 2021-22 school year. This past school year CHS moved to a block schedule consisting of 80 minute periods where students meet on alternate days. Moving forward for the 2021-22 school year, CHS will continue to use a block schedule on a 4 day rotation. This schedule will allow for four lunch waves to accommodate a reduced number of students/increased space between students in the cafeteria. The schedule also allows for two support periods (two 40 minute time slots) within one block as well as allowing for an advisory period without otherwise changing the schedule. Anne Harrigan expressed interest in revisiting school start times in light of the impact COVID-19 and adjusted school schedules had on students this past year.

**c. [Algebra II Textbook Selection Committee Report](#)**

Ms. Lisa Bernabe, Mr. Stephen De Falco, and Mr. John Redford gave a summary of the Algebra II textbook selection process and recommendation. The selection committee identified needs to align to the Common Core and the newly revised SAT, meet the needs of 21st century digital learners, as well as include formative and summative assessment data resources. The recommendations emphasized the strong rating for the enVision Algebra II textbook through Ed Reports. Additionally, strengths of the textbook included promoting self directed learners, providing instant feedback for students, and using data to help monitor student progress and drive instruction.

**d. Cheshire Curriculum Council (CCC) Business Executive Summary Presentation**

Ms. Leslie Paier shared an executive summary of the Business presentation to the CCC on April 6, 2021. Some key points of emphasis included how business classes support complex thinking and social emotional learning through real world business experiences. Three courses in the business department will be offered for college credit through Tunxis Community College beginning in the 2021-22 school year. Additional goals for the next five years include researching other dual enrollment opportunities with another community college, exploring opportunities to work with the Mastery Based Performance Assessment (MBPA) student experiences, and collaborating with colleagues to update curriculum and appropriate resources for each course. Ms. Paier also noted that connecting with local

businesses has been one important way for teachers to get professional development and stay current with business practices/realities.

**6. Adjourn**

- a. Ms. Harrigan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ham seconded the motion. Ms. Harrigan and Ms. Ham voted to adjourn the meeting and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 14, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kevin J. Hanlon*

Kevin J. Hanlon  
K-8 Curriculum Coordinator