

Cheshire Public Schools



Board of Education Curriculum Committee

Monday, December 13, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Faith Ham (Chair), Anne Harrigan, Tony Perugini

Cheshire Public Schools Staff Present:

Dr. Jeffrey Solan, Superintendent; Marlene Silano, Assistant Superintendent; Kevin Hanlon, K-8 Curriculum Coordinator; Dr. Mary Gadd, Principal - Cheshire High School (CHS); Dr. Maureen Reed, Assistant Principal - CHS; Mike Papa, Director of Technology; Scott Conway, Technology Integration Specialist; Tom Lewoc, Technology Integration Specialist; Anne Marie Wintenburg, RAM - Highland School; Michelle Piccerillo, Director of Youth and Social Services; Tom Veiva, 302 Consulting Group

Community Members Present:

Samantha Rosenberg (BOE member)

1. Public Comment

Jack Bestor (via email) re: reading and print books

Ashley Palumbo (via email) re: common curriculum, spelling, grammar, and math

Anonymous (via email) re: graded assignments, common instruction across buildings, and parent communication

2. [Review Minutes of October 18, 2021 Meeting](#)

Ms. Harrigan made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 18, 2021 Board of Education Curriculum Committee meeting. Ms. Perugini seconded the motion. Ms. Ham, and Ms. Harrigan voted to approve the minutes of October 18, 2021. Mr. Perugini abstained. The motion passed.

1. New Business

a. Mental Health First Aid

Dr. Jeff Solan, Michelle Piccerillo, Tom Veiva, and Dr. Mary Gadd gave an overview of Mental Health First Aid as a possible approach to consider for Cheshire High School. The overview included Adult, Youth, and Teen programs that teach participants to assess, listen, give, and encourage (ALGEE) in situations where a person may be at risk. Connection to district SEL goals, previous school and community efforts, the connection between Mental Health First Aid and district security, a potential framework for implementation in Cheshire were all topics of the presentation.

2. Informational Items

- a.** What are students reading at the elementary level? What skills are they learning?
Anne Marie Wintenburg and Kevin Hanlon gave a presentation on reading at the elementary level. The presentation included information on the role of mentor texts (Junior Great Books), independent reading books, and read alouds in reading instruction. The design of classroom libraries at various grade levels and an overview of progression of reading standards (information and literature) were additional key parts of the presentation.
- b.** Student Data Privacy
Mike Papa, Scott Conway, and Tom Lewoc gave an overview of the student data privacy as it relates to district practices. The state student data privacy laws, the district software review and approval process, use of the Learn Platform, parental rights/requests, and instruction in digital citizenship were main topics of the presentation.
- c.** Out-of-State, Overnight Field Trip
- CHS - US Bands National Championships, East Rutherford, NJ - Nov. 6-7, 2021
 - CHS - Winter Guard Region Competition, Salem, MA - February 2-3, 2022
- Marlene Silano gave a brief report on out of state field trips. The CHS band participated in the National Championships in November (2021) in New Jersey and the Winter Guard Regional Competition will take place in Massachusetts in February (2022).

3. Adjourn

Ms. Harrigan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Perugini seconded the motion. Ms. Ham, Ms. Harrigan, and Mr. Perugini voted to adjourn the meeting and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 10, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Hanlon

Kevin J. Hanlon
K-8 Curriculum Coordinator