

Cheshire Public Schools



Board of Education Curriculum Committee

Monday, November 14, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

Humiston Board Room

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Faith Ham (Chair), Anne Harrigan, and Tony Perugini

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

Community Members Present: None

Ms. Harrigan made a motion to amend the agenda to add an agenda item, Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program (CAAP), to Informational Items. Mr. Perugini seconded the motion. Ms. Ham, Ms. Harrigan, and Mr. Perugini voted to approve the addition of the agenda item. The motion passed.

1. Public Comment

No public comment via email nor any in-person public comment.

2. [Review Minutes of October 17, 2022 Meeting](#)

Ms. Harrigan made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 17, 2022 Board of Education Curriculum Committee meeting. Ms. Ham seconded the motion. Ms. Ham and Ms. Harrigan voted to approve the minutes of October 17, 2022. Mr. Perugini abstained. The motion passed.

3. New Business

a. [CHS Program of Study Changes](#)

Dr. Maureen Reed provided an overview of the recommended changes to the 2023-24 Cheshire High School Program of studies. The changes include additions of the following courses: Experimentation and Discovery in the Chemistry Lab, Exploration of Science Phenomena: Research Practices in Action, ECE Popular Music and Diversity in American Society, Beginning Guitar, DE Advanced CNC Manufacturing NVCC, AP Pre-Calculus, ECE If You Love It, Teach It, Advanced Theater CCP, and Fundamentals of Theater CCP. Other changes include combining two semester courses into a full year Child Development

and Human Growth Development ECE course, adding an ECE option to AP Calculus BC, and opening up Web and App Design to ninth grade students. Courses deleted from the program of studies include: Algebra I CP3, Algebra I CCP, Math Analysis, American Sign Language, and Healthy Balance.

4. **Informational Items**

a. [Right to Read Act](#)

Marlene Silano shared an overview of the CT Right to Read Legislation. The overview included the current timeline established for districts to indicate what approved instructional materials they will implement beginning in July 2023 and opportunities for districts to submit a waiver should they not plan to use one of the approved programs. The waiver would have to indicate that a district's curriculum is evidence-based and scientifically-based. Additionally, the curriculum requires a focus on oral language, phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, rapid automatic name/letter sound fluency, and reading comprehension. Marlene Silano and Kevin Hanlon additionally shared a sample of the type of data the district would submit as part of a waiver process if it were to do so. At this moment, the district is waiting to see if there are any changes to the timeline and/or process. Updates at future Curriculum Committee meetings are anticipated.

b. [Multilingual Learners Enrollment Update](#)

Kevin Hanlon provided the annual report on the number of multilingual learners in the district. As of the October 1st, 2022 PSIS enrollment report, there are 124 multilingual learners in the district. Last year there were 93 multilingual learners and in 2016-17 there were 38 multilingual learners. Spanish, Albanian, Mandarin, Korean, and Arabic are the top five languages spoken by our multilingual learners. By school, Highland continues to have the highest number of multilingual learners with 51. By grade, grades 2 and 3 have the highest number of multilingual learners with 19 and 22 respectively. Among some notes, sixty-seven teachers, non-certified staff, and administrators have/will have participated in a multilingual learner professional development session provided by a consultant from ACES this year.

c. Coaching Update

Marlene Silano provided the regular update on coaching in the district. In addition to sending additional teachers and administrators to training related to coaching, all members of the high school Science Department will participate in 3 coaching cycles with coaches from the Mandell Academy at the Connecticut Science Center. The coaching cycles will begin this month.

d. [Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program \(CAAP\)](#)

Dr. Mary Gadd reviewed a letter being sent to families regarding the new CAAP program provided by the state. CAAP offers students automatic admission to participating Connecticut Colleges and Universities based on high school grade point average and/or

percentile class ranking, both calculated using the College Board's formula. If students meet the state criteria, they will receive a letter indicating their acceptance to the participating colleges. Currently, some of the participating colleges include Central Connecticut State University, Eastern Connecticut State University, Southern Connecticut State University, Western Connecticut State University, Mitchell College, University of Bridgeport, University of New Haven, University of Saint Joseph.

5. 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 8:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 12, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Hanlon

Kevin J. Hanlon
K-8 Curriculum Coordinator