

Cheshire Public Schools



Board of Education Curriculum Committee

Monday, May 8, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Humiston Board Room

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Faith Ham (Chair), Dr. Anne Harrigan, 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; Mrs. Kelly Grillo, Principal - Norton School, Mr. Tom Tuscano, Dodd Math Division Leader; Mr. Ian Wilderman, CHS English Department Chair; Mrs. Patricia Castle, K-6 Literacy Specialist; Jonathan Strout, Education Consultant for Broadworks Education (attended virtually)

Community Members Present:

None

1. Public Comment

None - via email or in-person

2. [Review Minutes of April 17, 2023 Meeting](#)

Dr. Harrigan made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 17, 2023 Board of Education Curriculum Committee meeting. Mr. Perugini seconded the motion. Ms. Ham and Dr. Harrigan voted to approve the minutes of April 17, 2023. Mr. Perugini abstained. The motion passed.

3. New Business

a. New Textbook/Resource Recommendation

- [iReady Classroom Mathematics, by iReady Classroom](#)

Kevin Hanlon, Kelly Grillo, and Tom Tuscano shared the recommendations of the Middle School Math Resource Selection Committee to use iReady Classroom Mathematics as a text resource for grade 6 through 8 math courses. A primary driver of the search for a new text series was that it was first well aligned with current standards. iReady not only fit that need, but had strengths in usability and flexibility for students and teachers, assessments, and level of rigor. The plan is to have two training and preparation days in June for teachers to use the resource to map and plan for next year to be ready for a successful implementation in the fall.

Dr. Harrigan made a motion to move the iReady Classroom Mathematics, by iReady Classroom, to the full board for approval after the appropriate two-week period where it is available to the public for review. Mr. Perugini seconded the motion. Dr. Harrigan, Ms. Ham, and Mr. Perugini voted to approve the motion and it passed unanimously.

b. Out-of-Country Field Trip Request

- [Italy - Cheshire High School - April 4-14, 2024](#)

Dr. Maureen Reed shared details of a proposed trip to Italy in April of 2024. The trip is planned for approximately 30 students in Italian and Latin classes, and includes stops in Milan, Venice, Florence, Rome, and Sorrento.

Mr. Perugini made a motion to send the out-of-country field trip to Italy from April 4-14, 2024 to the full Board of Education for approval. Ms. Ham seconded the motion. Ms. Ham, Dr. Harrigan, and Mr. Perugini voted to move the trip to the full Board of Education for approval.

4. Informational Items

a. PASS Pupil Attitudes to Self and School

Marlene Silano and Jonathan Strout gave an overview of PASS: Pupil Attitudes toward Self and School. PASS is a K-12 survey for students in grades K-12 which provides information on students' feelings about school, perceived learning capability, self-regard, preparedness for learning, attitudes to teachers, general work ethic, confidence in learning, attitudes to attendance, and response to curriculum. The survey can be administered two to three times a year, and provides teachers, counselors, and administrators information to help support students. The results would be used to identify areas of student support needed at the district, school, class and individual student level. A copy of the survey questions were shared with the BOE Curriculum Committee Members.

b. [K-12 English Language Arts CCC 2022-23 Executive Summary](#)

Ian Wildermann, Patricia Castle, and Kevin Hanlon gave a summary of the 2023 English Languages Arts (ELA) Cheshire Curriculum Council (CCC) report. The ELA CCC utilized the following questions to guide their work: What does our vertical alignment look like in terms of curriculum and the standards? What types of reading are students doing at the different grade levels? Does our progression of instructional strategies lead towards college and career readiness and the CPS Performance standard of students becoming self-directed learners? What do our assessments tell us about student achievement? Some of the major ideas that emerged from the work that will influence the goals for the next five years include: Increasing student choice in writing by offering a variety of styles and types (increase authenticity); providing opportunities to discuss vertical alignment (begin with grades 8 & 9 and 6 & 7, K-6); finding a balance between paper and digital texts; increasing number of selections, student interest, relevance, cultural responsiveness; and developing High Quality Instruction to reach ALL learners.

5. Adjourn

Dr. Harrigan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Perugini seconded the motion. Ms. Ham, Dr. Harrigan, and Mr. Perugini voted to adjourn the meeting and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 12, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Hanlon

Kevin J. Hanlon
K-8 Curriculum Coordinator