

Cheshire Public Schools



Board of Education Curriculum Committee

Monday, September 11, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Committee Members Present: Faith Ham (Chair) and Dr. 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;

Community Members Present: Dr. Ninupama Nijam and Chaitanya Nijam

1. Public Comment

No public comment in person or via email

2. [Review Minutes of June 12, 2023 Meeting](#)

Dr. Harrigan made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 12, 2023, Board of Education Curriculum Committee meeting. Ms. Ham seconded the motion. Ms. Ham and Dr. Harrigan voted to approve the minutes of June 12, 2023. The motion passed.

3. New Business

a. [Flexibilities for Implementing the CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation 2017 for the 2023-2024 School Year](#)

Ms. Silano shared the recommendations of the Cheshire Educator Evaluation Committee to continue to implement flexibilities for the CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation (2017) for the 2023-24 School Year as offered/allowed by the state. The flexibilities include the option to conduct more frequent informal observations as opposed to less frequent formal observations. The recommendation from the committee requires the approval of the Board of Education, and Ms. Silano requested a motion to move the committee's recommendation forward to the full Board of Education for approval.

Dr. Harrigan made a motion to forward the Cheshire Educator Evaluation Committee's recommendation to continue to implement flexibilities for the CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation (2017) for the 2023-24 School Year as offered/allowed by the state for the full Board of Education to consider. Ms. Ham seconded the motion. Ms. Ham and Dr. Harrigan voted to approve the motion. The motion passed.

4. Informational Items

a. [CT State Testing Results](#)

Ms. Silano provided an overview of the state assessment results for the 2022-23 school year, which included the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA), Next Generation Science Standards Assessment (NGSS), and the SAT School Day assessment. The report highlighted that state assessment results are continuing an overall trend toward pre-covid achievement levels. This year, Cheshire has the 8th highest achievement in CT for ELA and math Grades 3-8. There is a continued focus on engaging high school students in classrooms that feature active learning that emphasizes application and complex thinking. The ELA improvement plans made through the curriculum review process this year give the district a roadmap to success.

b. Multilingual Learner Enrollment

Ms. Silano shared information about the number of students attending the Cheshire Public Schools whose primary language is not English. There are 477 students who fit this category, representing 48 or more languages. The information is important for future consideration of the Seal of Biliteracy under the state guidelines as well as support for students who meet requirements for multilingual support in school.

c. [Curriculum Writing Institute Update](#)

Ms. Silano shared that over 80 teachers attended the third annual Curriculum Writing Institute. Approximately 40 projects ranging from grade 1 research to high school British Literature to grade 7 music innovations were completed during the institute in June.

5. Adjourn

Dr. Harrigan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ham seconded the motion. Ms. Ham and Dr. Harrigan voted to adjourn the meeting and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 16, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Hanlon

Kevin J. Hanlon
K-8 Curriculum Coordinator