

# Cheshire Public Schools



## Board of Education Curriculum Committee

**Monday, April 15, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Humiston Board Room**

### Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Ms. Anne Marie Cullinan (Chair), Dr. Anne Harrigan,  
and Mr. Tony Perugini

Cheshire Public Schools Staff Present:

Marlene Silano, Assistant Superintendent; Kevin  
Hanlon, K-8 Curriculum Coordinator; Dr. Mary Gadd,  
Principal - CHS; Dr. Maureen Reed, Assistant Principal -  
CHS; Dawn DeMeo Social Studies teacher - CHS,

Community Members Present:

Irene Margari

**1. Public Comment**

No public comment in person or via email.

**2. [Review Minutes of February 12, 2024 Meeting](#)**

*Dr. Harrigan made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 12, 2024, Board of Education Curriculum Committee meeting. Mr. Perugini seconded the motion. Ms. Cullinan, Dr. Harrigan, and Mr. Perugini voted to approve the February 12, 2024 minutes. The motion passed.*

**3. New Business**

a. Out-of-Country Field Trip Request

- [Cheshire High School - Dominican Republic - April 12-20, 2025](#)

Dawn DeMeo gave an overview of the planned trip for CHS students to the Dominican Republic. The purpose of the trip is to educate students on the culture and language of the Dominican Republic and to give students an opportunity to contribute service while traveling. The trip is planned for up to 12 students and is connected to the Black and Latino Studies course. The cost of the trip is \$3,999 per student.

*Dr. Harrigan made a motion to send the out-of-country field trip to the Dominican Republic from April 12-20, 2025 to the full Board of Education for approval. Mr. Perugini seconded the motion. Ms. Cullinan, Dr. Harrigan, and Mr. Perugini voted to send the trip to the full Board of Education for approval and the motion passed.*

4. **Old Business**

5. **Informational Items**

a. Out-of-State Field Trip Request

- [Cheshire High School - Anaheim, CA - April 27-May 1, 2024](#)

Dr. Maureen Reed shared plans for two DECA members (business club) to travel to the DECA International Career Development Conference (ICDC) in Anaheim, CA from April 27-May 1, 2024. These members have qualified to attend based on superior performance at the state level, finishing top 3 in their competition. The conference will focus on knowledge and skills in the areas of marketing, finance, hospitality, management, and entrepreneurship. The cost of the trip is \$1,500 per student.

b. Assistant Superintendent Update

Marlene Silano provided an update on two topics: Educator evaluation and recent professional development.

March 14th was a district-wide professional development day. Teachers predominantly focused on content in the morning and pedagogy in the afternoon. Department chairs, division leaders, and coaches in grades 5-12 led sessions on the vertical progressions of content and standards across the grades. The elementary reading specialist and RAMS provided PreK-grade 4 teachers a session focused on foundational reading skills. Principals, district administrators, and a few teacher leaders facilitated the afternoon session on pedagogy focused on the district definition of High Quality Instruction and implementing practices anchored in *Building Thinking Classrooms*. Part of the afternoon session was dedicated to teachers planning a task to implement in their classroom in the next two weeks. On April 1st, building principals followed up on the March 14th day by having teachers reflect on the implementation of the planned task.

Concerning educator evaluation, the committee met most recently on April 2nd. There are approximately 27 educators on the committee. During the April 2nd meeting, the committee members had a working session where they did a deep dive into both the guidelines and model provided by the state. The work was in preparation for a May 15th meeting where the agenda will be to decide on a model for Cheshire's educator evaluation plan. The plan will be drafted and brought to the board in June.

6. **Adjourn**

*Dr. Harrigan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Perugini seconded the motion. Ms. Cullinan, Dr. Harrigan, and Mr. Perugini voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 13, 2024, at 7:00 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

*Kevin J. Hanlon*

Kevin J. Hanlon  
K-8 Curriculum Coordinator