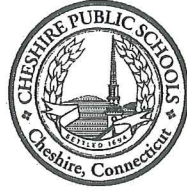


Cheshire Public Schools



Board of Education Curriculum Committee

Monday, April 20, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.

Humiston Board Room

Minutes

Committee Members Present: Ms. Anne Marie Cullinan (Chair), Dr. Anne Harrigan, Tim White, and Heather Fitzgerald

Cheshire Public Schools Staff Present: Marlene Silano, Assistant Superintendent; Azra Redzic, Curriculum Coordinator, CHS; Kevin Hanlon, Principal, Tim Galvin, Social Studies Department Head, Kelly Grillo, Principal, Ryan Murphy, Assistant Principal, Kristin Castellano, ML/Reading teacher, Kristen Giuliano, Social Studies Division Leader

Community Members Present: Skye Zeller

7:02 call to order

1. Public Comment

Skye Zeller, a resident and parent of two, commented on CPS curriculum, academic offerings and leveling.

2. Review Minutes of March 9, 2026 Meeting

Dr. Harrigan made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 9, 2026 Board of Education Curriculum Committee meeting. Ms. Cullinan, voted to approve the March 9, 2026 minutes. The motion passed.

3. Informational Items

a. Out-of-State Overnight Field Trips

■ CHS - DECA National Conference, Atlanta, GA - April 25-29, 2026

Principal Hanlon shared that a Cheshire High School student is attending the DECA National Conference. Students become eligible for this event through regional competitions and/or as representatives of the state delegation. Due to being the sole qualifier from the district, the student will partner with a delegation from another school for lodging and cost-sharing purposes. CHS coordinated extensively with the student's family.

■ Dodd - Washington, DC - Grade 8 - May 20-22, 2026

Principal Grillo shared that this trip provides an opportunity for eight graders to visit Washington DC and Gettysburg. The itinerary has been modified this year to include a stop in Gettysburg on the first day. The administration noted this is a trial addition; if it does not meet expectations, the

district will return to the standard itinerary next year. There are currently 277 students registered, filling six buses. A waiting list exists due to several families missing the registration deadline. Because bus contracts are finalized based on initial interest, adding a seventh bus is not currently feasible. Principal Grillo is working on communication strategies for current 7th-grade parents to ensure they are aware of the early fall/winter deadlines for the following year.

b. Cheshire Curriculum Council (CCC) Summary

■ K-12 Multilingual Learners

Kristin Castellano, Ryan Murphy, and Azra Redzic shared an overview of the Multilingual Learner (ML) Program and the Cheshire Curriculum Council process used to establish the next five-year goals. The presentation highlighted current enrollment numbers for ML students, the CSDE (Connecticut State Department of Education) framework, and upcoming steps for professional learning and instructional practices. The team emphasized that student focus groups were conducted to elicit direct feedback and concluded by outlining future goals for the ML program.

■ K-12 Social Studies

Kelly Grillo, Kristen Guilliano, Tim Galvin and Azra Redzic shared an overview of the Social Studies Program and the Cheshire Curriculum Council process used to establish the next five-year goals. The presentation highlighted stakeholder feedback, upcoming steps for professional learning and instructional practices, and priority areas for vertical alignment across grade levels. The team emphasized that student focus groups were conducted to elicit direct feedback and concluded by outlining future goals for the Social Studies program.

c. Assistant Superintendent's Update

Assistant Superintendent Silano shared that the team will attend the Science of Reading (SOR) Masterclass session on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, noting that the final SOR session is scheduled for May and that the national speakers have been great. She also highlighted a busy schedule for Friday, April 24, 2026, which includes early entry kindergarten screening at Darcey School, a Holocaust presentation for the freshman class, and the Town Art Show. Regarding department updates, surveys were distributed to all kindergarten and first-grade paraeducators to facilitate informed decision-making regarding adequate building support. A five-year evaluation of instructional supplies was also conducted to ensure all buildings have the necessary materials and to determine future needs. To prepare for the upcoming redistricting and the relocation of library collections, the team met with a librarian from another district that recently underwent a similar transition to coordinate best practices. Finally, Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) testing is scheduled to begin next week; staff have been utilizing practice tests and completing training sessions to ensure a smooth and confident administration of the exams.

4. **Adjourn**

Ms. Cullinan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Harrigan seconded the motion. Ms. Cullinan, Dr. Harrigan, Mr. White and Ms. Fitzgerald voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Azra Redzic

K-8 Curriculum Coordinator