

Barre Town Curriculum and Teacher Support Committee Meeting Notes
November 17, 2015

Present:

Brenda Buzzell, Chairperson

Tim Crowley, Principal

Jen Nye, Principal

Julia Pritchard, Director of Special Services

Rick McCraw, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Lindy Johnson, K-2 Literacy Specialist

The meeting was called to order at 8:08 AM.

Agenda:

1. Review/Approval of Minutes
2. Additions/Deletions to agenda
3. Next-Gen Science Standards – Implementation in the Barre Supervisory Union
4. Effect of the Longer School Day
5. Discussion of Future Meeting Times

1. Review/Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the October meeting were approved without change.

2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Brenda requests an update on the hiring of a tech integrationist. The sequence was adjusted to accommodate administrator availability.

3. Effect of the Longer School Day

Tim noted that the change is an additional 15 minutes over last year. Relative to the state's Education Quality Standards, five of the 15 minutes went to extending K-4 recess (from 25' to 30') in order to comply with the EQS physical activity requirement. The other 10' are used to extend core academic time.

In middle school, the time helps support additional science instructional time, especially in grades 5 and 6. The additional time also helps preserve TA/morning meeting time.

Staff impacts: There have been some rough spots owing to interpretation of contract language. Things are now going smoothly for the most part with only occasional friction.

4. Next-Gen Science Standards (NGSS) – Implementation in the Barre Supervisory Union

Presentation had three components: The nature of the NGSS, BSU-wide work around NGSS, and 2015 NECAP science results

NGSS and BSU-wide Work: Rick presented a slide show about the NGSS. (See corresponding handout.)

2015 NECAP Science Results: See corresponding handout.

- 5. Tech Integration Position:** The position remains unfilled. Tim observes good tech fluency in the classrooms he visits and so is not convinced that a tech integrationist position should be included in the coming year's budget. Jen added that mutual teacher support may be filling some of that role.

Brenda asked if the smart boards are integrated in classroom lessons, and the answer is yes.

6. Discussion of Future Meeting Agendas and Dates

Future Agenda Topics

- December 8: Health education with Lexa Jones and Lauren Singer
- January, date TBD: Review of the Tech-ed Art position.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:36AM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rick McCraw', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Rick McCraw
Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment