

**HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION/SPECIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES**  
**FEBRUARY 19, 2020, AT 6:30 PM**

**Board Members Present:** J. Collins, Chair | V. Flynn | M. Sockol | E. Briamonte | T. Wall |  
E. Urbanski | J. Hammer | P. Reddy

**Administrators Present:** R. McGarry, Superintendent | M. Petrizzo, Board Secretary | D. Seeley,  
Director of Curriculum & Instruction | M. Gill, Director of Special  
Services | M. Peart, Director of Human Resources & Compliance

**Meeting Location:** Indian Hill School - Cafetorium

- I. The board met on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 6:30 pm for its Curriculum and Instruction/Special Services Committee of the Whole Meeting.
- II. As a continuation of its conversation last meeting, the board expressed its concern regarding the District's rankings in US News & World Report and NJ Monthly publications. One of the critical issues is the number of students, by senior year, that took and passed at least one AP exam. In this regard, at last month's meeting, the board requested information regarding AP class enrollment, which was presented at the meeting. Data highlights include (1) 34% of our students do not take any AP's during their entire high school career; (2) 14 percent take only one AP class; (3) 58% percent take between two and seven AP classes; and (4) less than seven percent of our students take more than 7 AP classes during their high school career.

The board requested that the administration provide data on the number of seniors from the class of 2019 that enrolled in every AP subject class, and of those, who took and passed the AP exam.

The board also requested data on the number of waiver requests for AP classes in the past year and the success of those students in the classroom.

- III. The board inquired again into the possibility of open enrollment for AP classes and/or changing prerequisites to allow for increased AP enrollment to improve our rankings and quality of education. Dr. Seeley indicated that she needed to do research in this area on the costs/benefits and that she would get back to us with her professional opinion on the impact on the District at the next C&I Meeting.
- IV. We reiterated to the administration that there was a consensus on the board that in order to obtain a weighted grade in an AP class, the student must sit for the AP exam.
- V. The board agreed to obtain a high performance district data and/or educational consultant and Dr. McGarry indicated that he would get back to us at the next C&I Meeting regarding same.
- VI. The board discussed its concerns regarding academic integrity in the District, in particular cheating on assessments, and appropriate consequences. The board discussed the limitations of our current Academic Integrity Policy and the administration presented a revised policy that had a broader definition of academic cheating which allowed for greater consequences. We will have a first reading of the revised policy at the upcoming board meeting.

Next Meeting Date: TBD

