

**AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
May 24, 2010**

Minutes have not been approved by the Curriculum Committee.

MINUTES

Members in attendance: Julie Altman, Joseph Abbatiello, Diane Crocco, Rita Gedansky, Thomas Hurley, Dr. Charles Britton, Mary Raiola, Sheila Wycinowski

Guests: Jason Tracy, Robert Esposito

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Julie Altman.

Approval of Minutes – November 30, 2009

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes of November 30, 2009. Thomas Hurley made a motion to approve, Rita Gedansky seconded the motion.

Vote in favor: 3

Motion passed

Vote opposed: 0

Abstain: 2

Update Middle School Grouping Committee – No Action

The second order of business was an update on the Middle School Grouping Committee. Mrs. Wycinowski reviewed the charge of the committee, committee structure, work of the committee, and current recommendations of the committee. Mr. Jason Tracy discussed the creation of the parent survey, the administration of the survey, and the results. Discussion centered around the waiver system, the parent survey results, Core/grouping practices and Special Education law.

Discussion and Possible Action on Middle School Technology Education Robotics

Mrs. Wycinowski presented an overview of a new robotics unit for 8th grade middle school technology education. The unit addresses the goals vision of the District STEM Committee. The unit will be a 17-day unit and supplies have been included in the 2010-2011 budget. Mr. Hurley made a motion to accept/forward the new unit to the Board of Education. Julie Altman seconded the motion.

Vote in favor: 5

Motion passed

Vote opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

Update on High School Technology Education – No Action

Dr. Charles Britton gave the board an update on new activities in the Applied Education Department. The Construction One course curriculum will expand their hands-on activities to include more activities with regard to construction/stage craft. Additionally, through the Carl Perkins grant, the department will purchase renewable lab kits/laptops to provide students with the skills necessary to work in a green 21st century green environment.

Discussion and Possible Action on 8 Period Day Schedule at Amity High School

Dr. Britton reported that he successfully ran a mock eight period day schedule and all core sections fit. He identified the associated costs related to moving to an eight period day. The eight period day will add biology labs to Grade 9 and due to that change we will need to add a biology teacher to the high school staff. Other associated costs will be curriculum writing costs and they will be budgeted as part of the ongoing curriculum budget.

Dr. Britton walked the committee through sample schedules of students with an eight period day and highlighted changes. Dr. Britton also summarized new credit changes in the State of Connecticut's high school reform legislation. The eight period day will accommodate the new credit system.

Vote in favor: 5

Motion passed

Vote opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila F. Wycinowski,
Director of Curriculum & Staff Development

SFW/bam