

**AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING  
DISTRICT PRESENTATION ROOM  
October 16, 2008, 5:00 PM**

**Minutes**

**Members in attendance:** Joe Abbatiello, Julie Altman, Dr. John Brady, Charles Britton, Diane Crocco, Rita Gedansky, Bob Slie, Sheila Wycinowski

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Julie Altman, at 5:00 p.m. in the District Office.

The minutes of April 23, 2008 were approved. A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented by Rita Gedansky. Joe Abbatiello seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairperson Altman set aside the approval of the minutes until there was a full quorum.

The first order of business was review of summer curriculum projects by Mrs. Sheila Wycinowski. Mrs. Wycinowski highlighted curriculum projects for middle and high school.

The next order of business was the approval of the text, Exploring Our World: People, Places, and Cultures by Richard Boehn, Ph.D., McGraw Hill/Glencoe, 2008. Mr. Robert Slie commented the text aligns with the new grade 7 curriculum with emphasis on our district goal (global citizenship, geography and literacy.) He noted the text has been piloted and supports our district literacy strategies with strong emphasis on vocabulary. The company has provided many auxiliary materials to support the text and classroom instruction. Diane Crocco made the motion to approve the text. Rita Gedansky seconded the motion. The motion carried. The text will be presented to the Board of Education.

Dr. Britton presented the high school text in drafting, Exploring Drafting, by Walker, John R and Bernard D. Mathis by Goodheart-Wilcox Company, Inc. 2007. Dr. Britton noted the text was selected because of its excellent readability and clear, to-the-point diagrams, charts, etc. The text will serve as a strong foundation for grade 9 students, providing end of chapter questions and follow-up questions. The text infuses career education and provides students with valuable computer links. Rita Gedansky made a motion to approve the text. Diane Crocco seconded the motion. The motion carried. The book will be placed on the Board of Education agenda.

Dr. Britton then presented the text, The Study of Human Relationships, by W. Lavern Thomas, Holt, Rinehart, Winston, 2008. This sociology text is geared for high school students. The text has auxiliary materials and online resources and supports our district literacy goals. Diane Crocco made a motion to approve the text. Rita Gedansky seconded the motion. The text was approved and will be placed on the Board of Education agenda.

The last two texts presented by Dr. Britton were English book selections for World Literature. The Kite Runner, by Khaled Hosseini, Riverside Press, 2003, will be used in all levels in the World Literature course. It will promote a greater understanding of world cultures. Diane Crocco made the motion to approve the text. Rita Gedansky seconded the motion. The motion carried. The text will be presented to the Board of Education.

The second text was Graceland, by Chris Abani, Picador, 2004. This text is more difficult to read and will be used for levels Honors and Level 1 only. Diane Crocco made a motion to approve the text; Rita Gedansky seconded the motion. The motion carried. The text will be placed on the Board of Education agenda for approval.

Much discussion centered around the date for the next Curriculum Committee meeting. It was decided the meeting will take place on Thursday, October 30, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. in the District Office.

Joe Abbatiello made a motion to adjourn, Diane Crocco seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila F. Wycinowski,  
Director of Curriculum & Staff Development

SFW/bam