

**AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
DISTRICT PRESENTATION ROOM
September 5, 2007, 5:00 PM**

Minutes

Members in attendance: Rita Gedansky, Joe Abbatiello, Christopher "Kit" Collier, Tom Hurley, Dr. John Brady, Dr. Charles Britton, Robert Slie, Richard Dellinger, Sheila Wycinowski

Guests: Harold Freedman, Sean Malloy, Cara Haas, Brenda Burt, Sue Trovarelli, Robert Kuhsel, Estelle Fanucci

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Rita Gedansky at 5:00 p.m.

NEASC: Mission Statement and Academic Expectations

The first item on the agenda was the discussion and possible action on NEASC Mission Statement and Academic Expectations for Amity High School. Dr. Charles Britton appealed to the Board to expedite/accept this statement and discussed the previous process under Dr. Goldstone. He also discussed the importance of proceeding with the process. Board members questioned how the High School Mission Statement aligned with the District Mission Statement and discussed the NEASC standards of measurability and accountability. Ms Brenda Burt, co-chair of the Mission Committee, gave an overview of the process of committee from inception to the present revised statement. She noted Board of Education, community, and teacher input through a blog, etc. Charles Britton urged the committee to accept the mission at that meeting so the faculty and staff can proceed with the NEASC process. Joe Abbatiello moved to accept the statement as presented by the high school administration. Mr. Hurley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

NEW COURSE PROPOSALS – All courses proposed were approved by District Steering

English

Introduction to Philosophy: Mr. Harold Freedman, English Department Head, presented the Philosophy course which is a one semester survey course. This course is an English elective, one semester open to all students in grades 11 and 12. Mr. Freedman said the department may be able to absorb the course with current staffing or will request .2 Thirty texts @ \$62.49 will be requested in the 08-09 budget. This course was approved by District Steering.

Applied Education

Mr. Robert Kuhsel, Applied Education Department Head, presented two new Applied Education courses.

Engineering I, II are electives two semesters total. He will use existing staff and materials to run the course. The focus of the course is the design engineering process. This course represents an attempt to similar the professional engineering environment throughout a hands-on self paced classroom experience.

Advanced Automotive Technology is a two-semester, full-year course providing students with NATEF and ASE certifications upon successful completion of the course. The students will also have the opportunity to explore career placement opportunities in the automotive field. The department will use the existing staff to teach the course and the existing text.

World Language

Ms. Alberta Conte, World Language Department Head, presented Chinese 3 which is a continuation in our scope and sequence. She noted the success of the course. She will be requesting 1/5 staff. The text was approved last year and has been in the budget.

Reading - Science

Mrs. Fanucci representing reading teacher, Regine Randall, proposed a reading course entitled, "Reflecting on the Great Stories of Science." The interdisciplinary course will be taught by reading staff. No text is needed. The course will use supplemental paperback books. The course is a grade 11-12 elective, open to all students.

The courses were all approved in a block to be forwarded to Board of Education for approval at a future dates. Mrs. Gedansky made a motion to approve. Mr. Abbatiello seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Elective Human Biology

Mrs. Fanucci addressed the reinstatement of Science Human Biology course open to all students as an elective for grades 11-12. This course will offer students yet another science course for their college preparation. This course had already been approved and had been listed in previous course of study.

Mrs. Wycinowski then reviewed the curriculum assessment team findings briefly, for Adult and Continuing Education and English. More discussion will follow at a future date. The meeting was adjourned by the chair at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila F. Wycinowski,
Director of Curriculum & Staff Development

SFW/bam