

**AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING  
DISTRICT PRESENTATION ROOM  
November 26, 2007, 5:00 PM**

Minutes

**Members in attendance:** Thomas Hurley, Dr. John Brady, Joe Abbatiello, Charles Britton, Rita Gedansky, Robert Slie, Sheila Wycinowski

**Guests:** Cara Haas, Kimberly Vigliotti, Alex Bell

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

**Teen Life Course**

Dr. Charles Britton clarified the Teen Life course and said he was taking it off the table to reshape at a future date.

**Presentation on the Infusion of Political Geography in our Social Studies Curriculum**

Mrs. Wycinowski outlined the work of the BOWA K-8 committee; aligning the curriculum to cover the Five Themes of Geography in Grades K-6. Grade 6 will focus on Asia and place emphasis on cultural political social geography. She noted the current seventh grade curriculum is being reshaped to include more political geography and current political, social, and economic geography.

Grade 8 Social Studies curriculum has geography and map study activities embedded in each unit. Grade 8 will broaden its scope to include medieval Japan, Africa, and early American cultures.

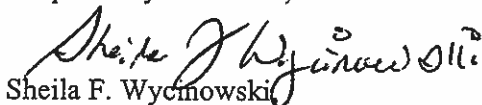
There was discussion about how technology will enhance the study of geography. Content Leaders and Administrators support the three year technology plan and encouraged the Board to support the purchase of LCD projectors and upgrade computers with DVD players as part of the goal development process and budgetary process.

Cara Haas, Social Studies High School Department Head outlined how geography is integrated throughout the required curriculum. (see attachment) She also discussed the new one semester elective to be piloted in spring 2008. The course will use numerous digital and technological resources during the study of the various world regions. She noted teachers would like LCD projectors to enhance instruction and release time, professional development and curriculum writing to develop lessons that integrate world political geography into the current geography curriculum.

Dr. Brady then addressed the need for LCD projectors and support for the technology plan and supported the Geography course. This course could be expanded to a full year in the future.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. Motion to adjourn, Tom Hurley; seconded, Joe Abbatiello.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sheila F. Wycinowski  
Director of Curriculum & Staff Development

SFW/bam