

**AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
DISTRICT PRESENTATION ROOM**

January 4, 2007

Minutes

Members in attendance: Rita Gedansky, Tom Hurley, Joe Abbatiello, Kit Collier, Dr. John Brady, Deborah Farber, Sheila Wycinowski,

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

Mr. Hurley moved to approve the minutes of October 3, 2006. Mr. Abbatiello moved to second the motion. Minutes of October 3, 2006 were approved unanimously.

AP Studio Art Mrs. Wycinowski presented the new course proposal for AP Studio Art. Discussion centered on how the portfolio would be judged and whether it would be a conflict of interest. The portfolio will be judged by a panel of fine arts teachers. The printing press will be used to print graphic artist renderings. Tom Hurley recommended that the Committee approve AP Studio Art to be sent to the full Board of Education. Joe Abbatiello seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Next followed a series of discussion with regard to the role of the Curriculum Committee of the Board of Education vs. District Steering Committee for Curriculum & Instruction. Much discussion ensued. Tom Hurley requested an executive summary of new course proposals be attached to new course proposals to reflect committee deliberations. Other discussions centered around new electives being tied to District/Board of Education goals.

AP Calculus AB, Calculus Topics Mrs. Wycinowski introduced two Calculus courses, Calculus AB and Calculus Topics. The new courses would foster higher achievement in Calculus. Tom Hurley recommended the new course proposal be sent to the Board of Education. Joe Abbatiello seconded the motion. Discussion centered around the title of Calculus topics. It was decided that Dr. Brady will discuss the title with Ms. Mastandrea and change course title to Calculus I. The committee unanimously voted to recommend the two Calculus courses to the full Board of Education.

Culinary/Hospitality/Restaurant Management I, II Mrs. Wycinowski presented two courses to support this new initiative. She noted much research went into planning the new course and facilities. Much discussion ensued about what will be taught and how the course was designed. Dr. "Kit" Collier voted to move to accept the course to be brought to the full Board of Education, Tom Hurley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chinese II Mrs. Wycinowski noted the course is a continuation of Chinese I. Enrollment is stable and students have expressed an interest in continuing Chinese. This course will allow students to continue in the course sequence. Discussion centered around course enrollment and the development of a scope and sequence leading to third/fourth year Mandarin. Dr. Brady noted it is his goal to continue the sequence toward offering AP Mandarin Chinese to students in the future. Tom Hurley suggested that a study of World Languages be conducted to assist future direction/offering. Tom Hurley made a motion to approve the course. Mr. Joe Abbatiello seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Healthy Body and Mind Mrs. Wycinowski presented the new course offering in Health to the Committee. The wellness offering will be open to upperclassmen as an elective. Much discussion ensued regarding whether the course overlaps with current offerings. There was not a motion to approve so this course will not be recommended at this time. The department may reapply in the future.

Latin III-IV Mrs. Wycinowski next presented an offering for Latin III-IV. This course is proposed as a Latin elective with an Honors designation. No new staff is needed and Latin 3 / 4 students will be combined within the same classroom. Dr. "Kit" Collier moved to recommend. Tom Hurley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dr. "Kit" Collier left the meeting at this time noting he could approve all remaining textbooks and courses.

Theater Advanced Technical Theater/Choreography/Movement.

Mrs. Wycinowski presented two theater courses, Advanced Technical Theater and Choreography/Movement. The Advanced Technical Theater course will be the second course in the sequence. Advanced Technical Theater will be a full-year Fine Arts elective offered as an Honors designation for students in Grade 11 and 12. It is our hope that this course will be team taught with the Applied Education staff. The second course proposed was a new course in Choreography/Movement. It will be a full-year elective open to students in Grades 9 – 12. This course will also be a Fine Arts elective. Discussion centered around a choreography fee. Tom Hurley made a motion to approve the courses pending availability of resources. Joe Abbatiello seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Cultural Geography Mrs. Wycinowski presented the course noting the course is interdisciplinary in nature and focuses on non-western countries/cultures. Tom Hurley made a motion to accept the course as proposed, Joe Abbatiello seconded the motion. The motion carried.

New Text Proposals New Text Proposal for Amity Middle School was *Buen Viaje* (Spanish). The New Text Proposals for Amity Senior High School are Pre Calculus Blitzer, Chinese 2, Spanish, Biology I. The Committee viewed/discussed new texts and Tom Hurley made a motion to accept all books as proposed. Joe Abbatiello seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Frameworks for Connecticut High Schools: A Working Guide for High School Redesign – Draft

This item was tabled and a separate meeting will be held on January 10, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. in the presentation room to discuss the frameworks. This will be the sole agenda item.

Tom Hurley made a motion to adjourn. Joe Abbatiello seconded the motion. The Committee adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Wycinowski,
Director of Curriculum & Staff Development