

March 25, 2021

Via Zoom and Googledoc

**WESTPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE**

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**

**AGENDA**

(Agenda Subject to Modification in Accordance with Law)

**SPECIAL NOTICE ABOUT PROCEDURES FOR THIS ELECTRONIC MEETING:**

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Orders No. 7B and 9H, public participation for this meeting will be held electronically and live streamed on westportps.org and shown on Optimum Government Access Channel 79 and Frontier Channel 6020. Emails to BOE members can be sent to [BOE@westportps.org](mailto:BOE@westportps.org). Comments to be read during the public comment period must be submitted to the meeting's Googledoc during the submission period. Please see the following link for instructions and guidelines:

[https://www.westportps.org/uploaded/Procedures and Guidelines for Public Participation in Remote Board Meetings.pdf](https://www.westportps.org/uploaded/Procedures_and_Guidelines_for_Public_Participation_in_Remote_Board_Meetings.pdf). We will use our best efforts to read public comments if they are received during the public comment period and if they state your full name and address. Meeting materials will be available at westportps.org along with the meeting notice posted on the Meeting Agenda page.

**WORK SESSION:**

1:00 – 2:00 p.m., Held Remotely Via Zoom Pursuant to Executive Order 7B and 9H

**MINUTES:**

1. Minutes: October 29, 2020

**DISCUSSION:**

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Middle School Math Pathways Modification | Ms. Allison Moran<br>Mr. Stefan Porco |
| 2. ESSER Grant II                           | Dr. Anthony Buono                     |

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting can also be viewed on channel 79 (Cablevision) and channel 6020 (Frontier), and by video stream @www.westportct.org.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION WELCOME USING THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:**

- Public comment will be accepted via a Google doc and the comments will be read aloud at the meeting. A link will be provided on Monday, prior to the meeting.
- There will be no in-person public comment due to public health concerns.
- A maximum of 15 minutes will be provided for public comments.
- Comments on agenda items are limited to 1 minute each.

*It is the policy of the Town of Westport that all Town-sponsored public meetings and events are accessible to people with disabilities. If you need assistance in participating in a meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact Westport's ADA Coordinator at 203-341-1043 or [efluq@westportct.gov](mailto:efluq@westportct.gov) at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled meeting or event to request an accommodation.*

3/23/2021 10:34 AM

October 29, 2020

Via Zoom and Google Doc

**WESTPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES**

**Committee Members Present:**

Jeannie Smith, Co-Chair  
Youn Su Chao, Co-Chair  
Candice Savin, BOE Chair

**Administrators Present:**

Thomas Scarice, Superintendent  
Anthony Buono, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning  
Allison Moran, Interim Assistant Principal, LLS  
Coordinator of Elementary Curriculum

**PUBLIC CALL TO ORDER:**

1:00 p.m., Held Remotely Via Zoom and Google Doc, Pursuant to Executive Order 7B

**DISCUSSION / ACTION:**

1. Approval of Minutes: January 16 and April 23, 2020
2. Policy 6172 Alternative Educational Programs Referred for Review by Policy
3. Debriefing Tri-State Report
4. Incorporating Science and Social Studies into the Elementary Program

**ADJOURNMENT:**

2:21 p.m.



# Middle School Mathematics Pathways

# Rationale

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- Current 7th grade Algebra incorporates concepts and content from 3 grade levels
- Students who take Algebra in grade 7 often do not continue to the terminal math class offered in that pathway
  - 19% of student in this pathway reach Multivariable calculus or differential equations
- Evidence suggests students might need a stronger foundation in algebraic thinking before moving into Algebra
- Need to create stronger alignment between Algebra 1 in grades 7, 8, 9 ensuring more consistent learning outcomes



# Grade 6-8 Mathematics

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## Objective:

- Redesign Math 6 curriculum to accommodate a wider range of learners
- Replace Math 6+ with Math 6/7 to include 6th and 7th grade standards
- Improve course alignment and provide coherent progression of skills and standards
- Develop clear, transparent criteria for identifying students for accelerated pathways
- Revise the waiver process while providing opportunities for acceleration



# Placement Process

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- Placement criteria
  - NWEA
  - Classroom Assessments
  - Problem solving assessment
- Parents may request their child's placement be reviewed and reconsidered by the school based team
- Team reviews will replace the waiver system



# Course: Math 6

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- Heterogeneous group of students
- Rigorous curriculum aligned to grade 6 standards
- Differentiated instruction
  - challenge high achieving students
  - provide additional practice for those who need it



# Math 6/7

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- Approximately  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the year learning 6th grade standards
- Approximately  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the year learning 7th grade standards
- Develops solid foundation and knowledge for Algebra 1
- Successful completion of Math 6/7 leads to Math 7/8 or Algebra 1



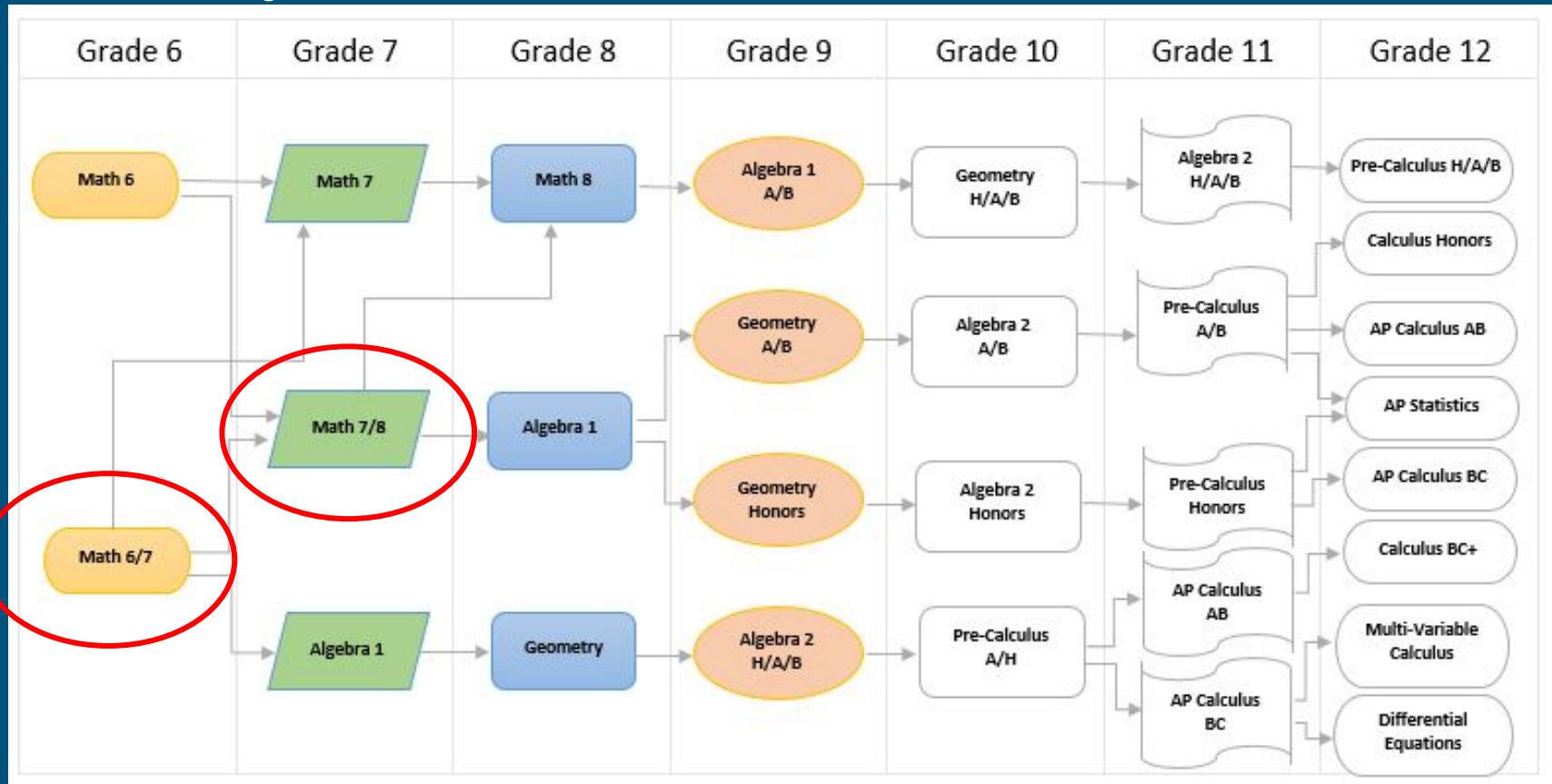
# Benefits:

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- Heterogeneous grouping in Math 6 ensures a more differentiated approach to teaching and learning
- Distributes students with various backgrounds across math classes more evenly
- Aligns with the middle school team model by more effectively balancing all core subjects

# Pathways Chart





# Timeline:

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- Proposed changes are for the 21-22 school year
- Recommendations are made by teacher around mid-May
- Parent requests to review a student's placement are due shortly thereafter
- Responses to parent requests will follow



# Westport Public Schools

## Summer Learning Opportunities

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March 25, 2021



# ESSER II Grant

**Objective I:** Develop academic supports that address learning loss or learning gaps that have occurred as a result of the pandemic.

**Objective II:** Target resources for students disproportionately affected by the pandemic. This includes:

- Students whose progress has stalled or decreased
- Students with disabilities
- English language learners

**Objective III:** Provide interventions/programming that address the social emotional well-being of students and school staff.



# Summer Programs

## Goals:

- ◆ Mitigate learning loss and prevent further decline over the summer
- ◆ Provide opportunities for socialization and social-emotional support
- ◆ Make learning engaging and excited



# Summer Program

## Program Design:

- ◆ Two 1-hour periods each day:
  1. Academic (reading or mathematics)
  2. An opportunity to integrate social and emotional skill building and inquiry-based hands-on activities (Continuing Education)
  
- ◆ Sample activities:
  - Structured games
  - Arts based activities
  - Visiting Artists



# Elementary Summer Program

- ◆ Target Group: Special Education, ELL, students in Tier II or III of the RTI program entering Grades 1- 6
- ◆ Two weeks of literacy and two weeks of math
- ◆ Estimated Number of Students Serviced 180
- ◆ Monday - Thursday (4 days a week)
- ◆ Dates: July 6 - July 30th





# Middle School Summer Program

- ◆ Target Group: Special Education, ELL, students in Tier II or III of the RTI program entering Grades 7-9
- ◆ Three weeks of literacy or math
- ◆ Estimated Number of Students Serviced 180
- ◆ Monday - Thursday (4 days a week)
- ◆ Dates: July 6 - July 23rd



# Additional Summer Opportunities

- ◆ Social-Emotional Sessions for Students and Parents
- ◆ STEM and Coding Camps for Students
- ◆ Wellness and Meditation Sessions for Staff



# Questions?