

**GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
September 13, 2021 @ 4:00pm
Virtual Zoom Meeting**

Members Present: Andrea Ackerman, Liz Porter

Members Absent: Jane Giulini

Also Present: Susan Austin, Philip Piazza, Tara Jones, Leslie Forbes, Kathleen Wilson, Peter Bass, Rochelle Whitchelo, Dan Bruno

Dr. Ackerman called the meeting to order at 4:00pm

1. Review of Minutes

MOTION: Porter, Ackerman; to approve the minutes of July 14, 2021
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Old Business

a. Presentation of Middle School electives and new courses

- i. Study Skills- MYP – presented by Kathy Wilson; classes included ATL Skills (6th grade), Calm the Chaos (Grade 7) and Strive for Success (Grade 8)
- ii. Music Electives – presented by Leslie Forbes; classes included World Drumming (Grades 7 & 8), Guitar (7 & 8), and Music technology (7 & 8)
- iii. Multimedia 1 and 2 – presented by Dan Bruno
- iv. PE Electives – presented by Tara Jones; classes included Strength & Balance (Grade 7), Fitness (Grade 8), and Dance (updated from ¼ to a semester)
- v. Art – presented by Rochelle Whitchelo; classes included 6th Grade Art, Intermediate Art, and Advanced Art

Questions from BOE:

- i. Can we get more specific CCSS written on the document for teachers?
- ii. Can we look at the section on the curriculum documents entitled “Units/Themes/Concept” for the Music and PE classes and get more specific as we lay out the year?
- iii. Can we make sure conversations are happening between MS and HS in terms of how these new electives will affect the HS curriculum, specifically for the Multimedia classes?

DECISION: Committee approval to move the curriculum forward for BOE approval

3. New Business

- a. No New business

4. Referral List

- a. Discussion about possible Grammar and/or Spelling assessments

5. Future Meeting Topics

- a. Midterms & Finals – are these still the best ways to check for understanding?

MOTION: Porter, Ackerman; to adjourn at 5:00pm
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY