

**BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**August 25, 2021**

**PRESENT**

Angelo Amato  
Amy Lestinsky  
Namita Wijesekera, Chair

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Colleen Murray  
Kai Byrd  
Tom Reed-Swale

**ABSENT**

Angel Irigoyen  
EJ Maher

**Call to Order**

Dr. Wijesekera called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.

**New Business**

**Motion** by Wijesekera, seconded by Murray to accept the May 12, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. *The motion carries 1 yes, 3 abstain (Amato, Lestinsky, Wijesekera), 2 absent (Irigoyen, Maher).*

Mrs. Byrd summarized the professional learning opportunities offered to staff during the back-to-school week.

- Patrick Flynn, ReVISION Learning, helped to facilitate the first Steering Committee meeting of the school year. The committee will continue their work in SEL, SRBE/Enrichment Opportunities, and have begun research and development work on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
- BCS Administration presented “Growing Together” at over the welcome back to school “nuts and bolts” meeting.
- Dr. Marie Alcock was on hand to deliver the keynote address and to re-engage staff in curriculum development work.
- Tom Reed-Swale, Principal, presented on SeeSaw, a platform that allows teachers to post student work and communications to individual families.
- Jackie Nathman, Climate & Instruction Specialist, led a workshop on Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports.
- The Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Committee presented and engaged staff in a variety of activities to support the kickoff of the year’s SEL initiative which will include a universal screener to measure students’ social competencies, the continuation of the morning meeting focused on SEL, and the implementation of Second Steps, a program that helps to promote the social-emotional development, safety, and well-being of children.

- Tom Reed-Swale presented on the Collaborative Growth Initiative which allows staff to select and work on a professional goal.
- Design Lab staff met to begin planning activities and lessons for the new special course.

Tom Reed-Swale reported on updates regarding the work the District/School has taken in the area of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. He reported that Equity work somewhat paused during the pandemic but the group was able to create a mission statement, diversity, and inclusion statement and identify and purchase school resources. He further reported the Steering Committee has identified this work in their goals for the coming school year and will begin research and development at their next meeting.

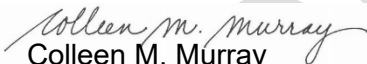
Mrs. Murray reported that Smarter Balanced scores will be released next week by the State Department of Education. She shared with the committee the “unofficial” scores and noted that the Board would receive an official presentation in October.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

## **Future Agenda Items**

- Approval of the August 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Curriculum Update
- Professional Learning Update
- Equity Update

  
Colleen M. Murray  
Recorder

Approved October 6, 2021