

**GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
October 18, 2021  
Central Office Room 4/Virtual Zoom Meeting**

**Members Present:** Andrea Ackerman, Liz Porter

**Members Absent:** Jane Giulini

**Also Present:** Philip Piazza, Carmita Hodge, Nicole Howell, Lisa Dragoli

1. Call to Order: Dr. Ackerman called the meeting to order at 5:00pm
  
2. Review of Minutes  
MOTION: Porter, Ackerman; to approve minutes of September 13, 2021  
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
  
3. Old Business
  - a. African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies
    - i. C Hodge review the course currently being piloted with 19 students enrolled; it is an elective but can also be used as US History credit
    - ii. There is State training available on each unit (virtual training)
    - iii. There will be a showcase around this class on June 9, 2022
    - iv. C Hodge will inquire about who can attend trainings/workshops
    - v. 1<sup>st</sup> semester is African American/Black Studies while 2<sup>nd</sup> semester will be Puerto Rican/Latino studies
    - vi. Fitch High School is part of a State pilot for this class that is mandated by the 2022-23 school year
    - vii. Early Successes: love the readings, group activities and conversations
    - viii. Early Concerns: possibly too many documentaries to view; still need to develop assessments
  - b. Review Curriculum Handbook and policy 6141 and regulation
    - i. All agreed to postpone/table this discussion until BOE members had the most up to date Curriculum Handbook (2019)
  
4. New Business
  - a. Latin 1 – Grade 9 (Fitch High School)
    - i. N Howell took us through a PowerPoint discussing the Course Purpose, Target Audience, Standards, Grading criteria, etc.
    - ii. Current enrollment is low (not able to recruit since building visits were nonexistent last year); goal is to increase enrollment
    - iii. Overall Program vision was also shared for Grades 6-12
    - iv. This is the formalization of existing curriculum in MYP format
  
5. Referral List
  - a. Agreed to remove “Review of Spelling”
  - b. Agreed to hold future discussion on mid-terms and finals once some proper research can be collected to read and discuss around their value and the topic of alternate assessments
  
6. Future Meeting Topics
  - a. None discussed
  
7. Adjournment
  - a. MOTION: Porter, Ackerman; to adjourn at 5:55  
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY