

Minutes of the Planning/Personnel Committee of the Board of Education
Regional School District 14 www.ctreg.org
August 18, 2014

A meeting of the Planning/Personnel Committee of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held on Monday, August 18, 2014 at Nonnewaug High School, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present were Committee Chair Maryanne Van Aken, Janet Morgan, Carol Ann Brown, Interim Superintendent Frank Sippy, Ph.D., Pam Zmek, George Bauer, Charles Cosgriff, NHS Principal Andrew O'Brien, Jessica Piel, and BoE clerk Deb Carlton.

The meeting came to order at 6:30 pm and concluded at 7:05 pm.
The committee considered the addition of an AP Language and Composition text at Nonnewaug High School:

Mr. O'Brien and Ms. Piel discussed the difference between AP Lit, where the focus is on literature, and AP Language, with a focus on non-fiction (synthesis, evaluation and argumentation). A course description for AP Language and Composition was given and the new text was presented along with reasons for having chosen and purchased it. Finally, an estimated expenditure of \$2,100 for 35 texts (\$60 each) was given.

Considerable discussion followed, and Ms. Morgan was most concerned that this review was happening after the purchase had already been made. The committee should be reviewing the proposal for text, and the Board would need to approve the committee's recommendation, before the purchase is made, she said.

Ms. Zmek also had concerns about AP students being asked to purchase supplemental books for summer reading.

Ms. Piel was asked if other districts use the same text and she did not know.

Ms. Morgan asked when the new class had been added and was told this was reviewed with the committee last winter. Ms. Brown felt the text included a lot of material, and lots of outside text. She felt the goal of CCSS was to cover less material but in greater depth.

Dr. Sippy spoke about content based strands in the curriculum which will be the driving force, and commented that the amount of information out there will only continue to grow; we need to manage that.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryanne Van Aken

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Chair, Planning/Personnel Committee