

BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
August 4, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sarah Pregent (BC) – Vice Chair
Rachel Aldrich-Whalen (BC Community Member)
Melissa Battah (BT Community Member)
Chris Parker (BT)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Nancy Leclerc (At-Large)
Vacant Position (BT)

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alice Farrell
Terry Reil
Sonya Spaulding

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent
Karen Fredericks, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT:

Josh Howard

1. Call to Order

The Vice-Chair, Mrs. Pregent, called the Thursday, August 4, 2022, BUUSD Curriculum Committee meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was held at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

2. Organize

The Committee agreed to postpone this item until a new individual is appointed to fill the vacant Board seat and an additional Board Member is assigned to the Committee.

3. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

On a motion by Mrs. Battah, seconded by Mrs. Aldrich-Whalen, the Committee unanimously agreed to approve the Agenda as presented.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. Approval of Minutes -

5.1 May 5, 2022 Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Ms. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Aldrich-Whalen, the Committee unanimously voted to approve as amended, the minutes of the May 5, 2022 BUUSD Curriculum Committee Meeting.

6. New Business

6.1 Brief Review of Spring Data (Including Administrators' Takeaways)

Three documents were distributed;
'Spring 2022 Disaggregated SBAC Data'
'Attendance Info 2022 – 2023'
'Spring Survey Results'

Ms. Fredericks displayed the SBAC Data Report on screen and provided an overview of the data which has results broken down by school, and into various demographics, e.g. economic disadvantage, English language learners, etc....The second page included in the packet is broken down by grade level and also is broken down by various demographic categories. There were no questions from the Committee.

The Attendance Reports (by school) were displayed. Attendance is broken out by school and includes a District-wide summary. Ms. Fredericks provided an overview of the reports, noting that attendance is reported by grade, advising that 84% attendance or lower represents 28 or more absences. Areas of concern are highlighted in red. In response to a query, Ms. Fredericks advised that she believes the absences tracked in the report represent unexcused absences (not excused absences due to quarantining etc.). These reports also include a breakdown by various demographics. Where there are fewer than 5 students in a particular demographic, the data has been redacted to avoid identifying any individual students. Brief discussion was held regarding categories with high absence rates.

Ms. Fredericks displayed the Spring Survey Result Reports which include comparisons between the schools and comparisons to statewide data from the Vermont PBIS system. Survey responses include input from students, staff, and families. It was noted that parental involvement is lower than the District would like to see and the District will be working on improving parental involvement. There were no questions from the Committee.

6.2 Effective Practices as a Universal Focus

A document titled 'Practices – Elements of Effective Instruction' was distributed.

The document was displayed on screen. Ms. Fredericks advised that the document represents approximately six months of work between curriculum leaders, coaches, and various other leadership groups within the buildings. The District's focus will be on effective practices (that are universal throughout each building) with the goal of addressing both academic and social/emotional needs. Professional staff will use the same practices for goal setting. There are specific and sometimes different strategies for use in various subjects. Various data points will be utilized to drive strategies. This is a 'living/working' document that will change over time and is intended to be aligned with the Strategic Plan. These practices will be shared during new teacher orientation and during the Opening In-Service Week. This document is intended to serve all learners. It was noted that the online version of the document includes links to additional information for each category.

6.3 Progress Monitoring to Support a More Effective MTSS

A document titled 'Progress Monitoring Template' was distributed.

The MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support) template was displayed on screen. There are many different tiers of support in place. It is hoped that most students are supported by the first tier. There are several other tiers which provide more intensive support. The form displayed is intended for use with small groups to measure progress of individual students. Ms. Fredericks provided information regarding how the form can be utilized, noting that its use will help build consistency. In response to a query, Ms. Fredericks advised that the form is to be used to cater to students' needs and can be used to support students who excel. Ms. Parker noted that the tracking of attendance can be useful in working with parents with data supporting that absences are impacting learning. In response to a query, Ms. Fredericks advised that the goal is to track progress on a daily basis. Concern was raised that daily documentation could take instructional time away. Ms. Fredericks noted that the AOE recommends that there be 16 days of data in order for students to proceed with the process of EST referral. The District needs to confirm that students have been in attendance and that adequate instruction was provided.

7. Old Business

None.

8. Other Business

None.

9. Items for Future Agendas

September Agenda Items:

- Reorganization
- New Math Program Update
- Feedback from Facilitator Training
- Great Schools Partnership - More Extensive Summary of Support for 2022/2023 (Consultant, Jean Haeger)

Parking Lot:

- REMOVE Special Educator's Office Presentation (will be presented to the full Board)
- REMOVE Great Schools Partnership (being added to September Agenda)
- ADD: SEL/MTSS Update
- ADD: Fall Climate Survey
- ADD: Review Results From January 2022 Staff Survey – TBD
- ADD: Details of Ms. Fredericks 5-Year Education Action Plan – TBD
- ADD: Discuss Blended Classes / AP Students – TBD
- ADD: Percentages: Student Drop-out Rates and School Completion Rates - TBD

- ADD: Plan to Assist Teachers in Understanding Data - TBD

10. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is Thursday, September 1, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

11. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Battah, seconded by Mrs. Aldrich-Whalen, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin