

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Curriculum Committee of the  
Trumbull Board of Education

Regular Meeting

Thursday, May 5th, 2022, 10:00 a.m.  
Trumbull High School Main Office Conference Room

Minutes

**I. Call to Order/Introduction. The meeting was called to order at 10:10am.**

**Members present**

M.Petitti, chair  
L. Nuland  
J. McNamee  
S.Iwanicki, Ed.D., ex officio

**II. Public Comment**

- Mr. Durden attended. He expressed that the Board should be sure to consider all the factors when making course changes and the change process in relationship to the Interactive World History text. He mentioned the dynamic content that is included and questioned if the school will be notified of changes and updates to the text when they occur. He also shared that as the book company mentions in their marketing the inclusion of SEL and C3 information; he urged the Board to be sure they have a full understanding of these types of components before approving a text. Mrs. Petitti shared the process.
- The Board has also received several comments about the new state approved Health and Wellness Curriculum which has not been written into the Trumbull Public Schools curriculum yet. Some parents have expressed disapproval, while others have expressed approval.
- It was noted that the Board is receiving public comment about materials when the family does not have students in the class or when the parent has not actually reviewed the material in full that they are commenting about. One community member shared concern that a change was made to curriculum by a single administrator when in fact a teacher-chosen curriculum resource was being questioned. Ms. McNamee noted that it was also important to listen to the community as they are our stakeholders. Mrs. Petitti noted that Board needs to be sure, however, not listen to and/or promote rumors.

**III. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting 04/12/2022**

Mrs. Nuland motioned moved to approve the April 12, 2022 minutes. Ms. McNamee seconded.

**IV. New Business**

- a. High School Math Course Offerings Update  
Department Chair Katie Laird shared that Trumbull High School will be offering a previously approved course Honors Algebra I/Geometry A and Honors Geometry B/Algebra II. She also shared this decision is being made as an analysis of current i-Ready scores showed that more students are ready for mathematic instruction at a faster pace earlier in their programming. These two courses entail covering the essential standards of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. The intent is that student will have completed Algebra II by the end of their sophomore year so that they can then take Precalculus as juniors. Mrs. Nuland noted that these courses allowed students, like her own daughter, to take more of the higher-level math and to move at a faster pace. There is no additional cost. Mrs. Laird mentioned that there is an approved pacing guide, but no full curriculum guide. In the future, the department will need to write a full curriculum guide.
- b. ECE Large Animal Science- Curriculum Guide Approval for New Course.  
Mrs. Trojanoki, Agriscience teacher and Dr. Linda Paslov, Agriscience Program Director presented a new curriculum guide for ECE Large Animal Science. Mrs. Trojanoki noted they had a big task to combine two courses to make this curriculum which focuses on applied skills in farming as well as forward thinking technologies. Students can take it for regular credit and for university credit. Ultrasound and genetic testing are available through UC Davis to students. This course is a two-year course. Ms. McNamee motioned to approve the curriculum guide. Mrs. Nuland seconded.
- c. ACP Global Civilization- New Text Approval: Ellis, G.E., & Elser, A. (2022). *World History Interactive*. Savvas Learning. 9<sup>th</sup> Grade History teacher leader, Breanne Brienza, presented the new text and shared that the text was chosen based on how it supported skill development as opposed to just mere content. We currently have 40 hard copies that were gifted to us that will be dispersed in the classroom. This interactive text was piloted this year with several history teachers. Ms. McNamee asked about the United States history in this text and it was clarified that content related to the United State is taught through a separate course devoted entirely to that topic. She also noted a heavy focus on Judeo Christian and European perspective and wondered about the curriculum that would be derived from the text and if it would be more inclusive. She shared lesson delivery ideas that she had used when delivering similar curriculum in the past as a teacher and wondered how teachers would approach the curriculum with this text. The committee noted that the curriculum guide written from this text needs to be differentiated and address other areas of the world. The process of the review of the text was also shared. Three different texts were reviewed and this text was chosen for its modern and updated inclusion of information and skills not included in their current texts. Mrs. Petitti mentioned that she appreciated the work the teachers put into thoroughly reviewing the text and piloting it this year with students and that she hopes more teachers will attend future meetings. Mrs. Nuland commented that from a publishing perspective, she feels the book will meet the students needs. Ms. McNamee shared that she was not comfortable moving the book forward until after she can see how the new curriculum will be delivered using it.

Mrs. Petitti made a motion to adjourn the meeting 11:40 a.m. and Mrs. Nuland seconded.