

BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes
September 6, 2023

PRESENT

Angelo Amato arrived at 6:31 pm
Susan Bradford
Amy Lestinsky
EJ Maher arrived at 6:31 pm
Namita Wijesekera, Chair

OTHERS PRESENT

Kai Byrd
Cheryl Kiesel
Tom Reed-Swale

ABSENT

None

Call to Order

Dr. Wijesekera called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

New Business

Motion by Wijesekera, seconded by Maher to accept the May 3, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. *The motion carries 4 yes, 1 abstain (Lestinsky).*

Ms. Kiesel reported that the start of the new school year was very exciting with three days of professional development for our new teachers orienting them to our procedures and curriculum.

Paraprofessionals had a dedicated day of professional development before the teacher's return on August 21st.

Professional development topics included presentations from Margie Gillis and iReady Magnetic Reading, a new reading assessment, technology workshops, and our specialists having time with Woodbridge to collaborate and align their standards. There will be ongoing work this year with Margie Gillis and her team to focus on the Science of Reading.

Ms. Kiesel provided additional information on the DIBELS assessment and how the data is used to inform instruction. There was also additional discussion on Margie Gillis's Professional learning related to the Science of Reading.

Mr. Maher inquired about the amount of time that is spent on the assessments and an overview of the assessment calendar was provided as part of the discussion.

Mr. Maher requested an update on math performance, specifically if the change to Common Core is yielding the results that were intended years ago, both nationally and in Bethany. A more detailed update will be offered at a future meeting.

Ms. Bradford requested additional information regarding curriculum resources.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Future Agenda Items

- Approval of the September 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- Curriculum and Professional Learning Update
- Math Update

Kai Byrd
Kai Byrd
Recorder

Approved October 4, 2023

APPROVED