



**Minutes  
Curriculum Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, October 11, 2023; 3:30 p.m.  
Central Office  
Conference Room**

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**Board Committee Members Present**

Carol Ann Brown, Chair  
Alice Jones  
Jim Crocker

**Absent**

Tikva Rose

**Also Present**

Brian Murphy, Superintendent  
Taryn Fernandez, Director of Teaching and Learning  
Katie Yocis, Chemistry/Forensics Teacher  
Alicia Schiavo/Math Instructional Leader, Mitchell Elementary School

**I. Call to order**

Carol Ann Brown called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**Curriculum Review/Approval**

**II. K-5 Math Curriculum**

Illustrative Math is an inquiry based math program where students gain their knowledge through practice and trial as well as discussion and collaboration. The format for Illustrative Math is the same across the grades, only the concepts change. The curriculum was piloted last year in Grade 4 at Bethlehem Elementary and Grade 2 at Mitchell Elementary. Materials include workbooks for students with manuals and an on-line component for teachers. The curricula is also adaptable to the district's special needs students.

**Motion**

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Alice Jones to accept/ approve the curriculum as presented; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

**III. Textbook Adoption Proposal: *Forensic Science, Fundamentals & Investigations*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition**

The proposed textbook by authors Bertino and Bertino replaces a textbook from 2007 and is in alignment to current national and NGSS standards. It includes over 100 hands-on embedded activities and inquiry-based labs. The textbook also contains chapter scenarios and case studies reflecting current events.

There was some discussion regarding the number of requested textbooks, which was 50, and whether or not it would be more fitting to order enough to accommodate a normal class-size. It was the consensus of the committee to modify the request to 25 textbooks and include the on-line component with print and digital.

**Motion**

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Alice Jones to adopt the textbook, *Forensic Science, Fundamentals & Investigations*; 25 textbooks with on-line services; seconded by Alice Jones; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Five-Year Curriculum**

Dr. Fernandez shared the Region 14 Curriculum Writing Plan for 2023-2025. The plan goal is to complete all of the district's curriculum in the Understanding by Design format, with vision-of-a-learner attributes represented, prior to NEASC returning for their final visit.

**Adjourn**

A motion was made by Carol Ann Brown to adjourn the meeting of the Curriculum Committee; seconded by Alice Jones; the meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*



*Patricia Paige*  
*Board Clerk*

*Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Patricia Paige, Board Clerk*