



PLYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CENTRAL OFFICE
27 NORTH HARWINTON AVENUE
TERRYVILLE, CONNECTICUT 06786

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Plymouth Public Schools is to challenge, inspire, and prepare all students for success in an ever-changing and complex world.

PLYMOUTH BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL
PLYMOUTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
TERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
33 NORTH HARWINTON AVENUE
TERRYVILLE, CT 06786

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023

6 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: Ms. Tilton and Mrs. Kulesa

Attendance by means of electronic equipment: Mrs. Lucian

Others Present: Mr. Falcone, Superintendent, Mrs. Melillo, Assistant Superintendent and Mrs. Mozak-Pezza, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

1. Call to Order

Ms. Tilton called the special meeting of the Curriculum Committee to order at 6 p.m.

Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: To entertain a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion Mrs. Kulesa, second Mr. Showers, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

3. Reading Program - Mrs. Mozak-Pezza, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Update

Reading Legislative Update – The Legislature put through a law that all districts in Connecticut had to implement a particular set of reading programs that were going to be approved by the State or they were going to have to go through a waiver process.

(a) District Submitted a waiver in February 2023.

(b) State did not supply criteria for which the waivers were to be judged at the time the waivers were submitted.

(c) June 2023 the state requested the names and publication dates for all of the programs used in the reading program.

(d) October 2023 the criteria were received as to how the waivers would be assessed and decided whether or not the district would pass or not pass.

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(e) October 2023 the district was given the opportunity to have an on-line meeting with individuals who received the waiver and spoke about the parts that were missing based on the criteria they provided.

(f) Waiver was denied (any programs being used from teachers' college, that section of your curriculum was denied.

Mr. Falcone explained while the state was reviewing our waiver, we would be able to visit various districts to observe how this was working out for them, see what is working and hear from the teachers in order for our district to make an informed and educational decision on how we would move forward. We did not want to invest into something we did not know enough about.

Program Review Process

Wit & Wisdom – Samples Reviewed/In Prog.

Bookworms 2021 – Program Reviewed/In Prog.

Full replacement of ELA K – 5 (depending on Program) - \$200,000 – \$420,000.

No price on Partial Replacement as of yet.

A grant that was submitted to the state will provide \$52,000 towards the purchase.

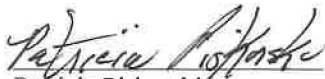
4. New Kindergarten Start Date - Mrs. Mozak-Pezza, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Summary: To start kindergarten in the 2024 – 2025 school year, a child must turn 5 on or before September 1, 2024. If a child does not meet the new entry cutoff date, and parents want their child to attend kindergarten early, the parent may seek exemptions, which local principals can grant on a case-by-case basis. The parent or guardian would need to provide a written request and an assessment would need to be completed by the school to determine if admitting the child to kindergarten would be developmentally appropriate. The state has provided no universal waiver assessment. Mr. Falcone suggested the possibility to have his letter notifying parents of this change and options to be placed in the newspapers.

5. Adjournment

MOTION: To entertain a motion to adjourn at 6:29 p.m. Motion Mrs. Kulesa, second Mrs. Lucian, all in favor, motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted



Patricia Piskorski
Recording Secretary