

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Curriculum Committee of the Trumbull Board of Education

Regular Meeting

Thursday, May 16th, 2024, 8:30 a.m.
Trumbull High School – **Room M116**

Minutes

- I. Call to Order/Introduction. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Mrs. Petitti at 8:31 a.m.

Members Present

M. Petitti, BOE Curriculum Committee Chair

J. McNamee, BOE Member

L. Nuland, BOE Member

S. Iwanicki, Ed.D, administrative designee

- II. Public Comment. No public comment has been received.
- III. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting Mrs. Nuland motioned to approved 3-28-24 meeting minutes. Ms. McNamee seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- IV. New Business
- a. New Course Proposal: Grade 11-12 Self-Contained Core Concepts of Geometry-Algebra 2- Trumbull High School Supervisor of Special Education, Jen Wolyniec, was joined by special education teachers Carrie Tomasiewicz and Eleni Grafos to present the overview of the proposed course. Current self-contained math course structure results in students taking the same course more than once. This creation of this additional course might help to add additional content, increase mastery of skills, as well as student scores on the SAT. This course would be a fourth section of math to allow students more opportunity to master skills. Ms. McNamee noted that the course should focus on the standards as opposed to the SAT. It was clarified that this course does focus on skills and standards, preparation for the SAT is just a small component that this course. Ms. Tomasiewicz clarified that this course would teach the same standards, but at a pace the students can master and with real life concepts such as the circumference of a pizza. Mrs. Nuland shared that having son who participated in the program in the past, she sees this additional curriculum as a positive change. Mrs. Petitti added that as an experienced math educator, she knows that students can master skills with the right support. A course like this is needed for those students. Ms. McNamee motioned to approve the Core Concept Geometry-Algebra 2 course proposal and move it forward to the full Board for approval. Mrs. Nuland seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Ms. McNamee motioned to add a revised ACP Statistics Curriculum Guide to the agenda. Mrs. Nuland seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- c. Grade 12 ACP Statistics Curriculum Revisions- Department Chair Dr. Sroka shared that Trumbull High School has the newly approved Statistics text which provided the rationale for updating the

curriculum guide. She was joined by mathematics teacher, Mr. Scerbo, who relayed that the first major goal for students is to have a sense of a measure of central tendency and dispersion. The second goal is to be able to look at a complicated formula and understand that the variable stands for something. A rich discussion of statistics and a need for student understanding of the concepts ensured. Mr. Scerbo expanded that the teachers introduce the vocabulary and then jump into variables. Mrs. Petitti asked about the order of the concepts within the course and was pleased with the order that was shared. Ms. McNamee moved that we accept the updated Grade 12 ACP Statistics Curriculum as revised and bring it to the full Board for approval. Mrs. Nuland seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- d. Assistant Superintendent's Elementary Reading Update- Dr. Iwanicki presented an overview of the changes being considered for the K-5 ELA Assessment Calendar, the survey results regarding our current ELA materials completed recently by K-5 teachers, as well as the highlights of the state approved materials being explored to meet the target areas identified by the Connecticut State Department of Education as needing more support within the current K-3 curriculum. The district will be piloting new materials next year and will be periodically updating the Curriculum Committee. Ms. McNamee expressed a concern about abandoning the Teachers College work that has been vetted and successful within Trumbull. Dr. Iwanicki shared that teachers will be able to consider the Teachers College materials in comparison to the materials being are piloted, but that the change is needed and being asked for by teachers. Mrs. Nuland correctly noted that these changes are also necessary to meet the state legislation. Mrs. Petitti shared that she hopes that Trumbull Public Schools will be careful in our approach to not overwhelm teachers with too much change as so much good work has been done in the area of literacy. Dr. Iwanicki communicated that the intent of the pilot is to involve teachers in the evaluation of materials so that the best decisions can be made based on the standards as well as best teaching practices. She is hopeful that the teamwork that has been taking place and with high-level of involvement from our experienced elementary teachers [most have more than 15 years of teaching experience,] we will be able to make an informed and educated recommendation to the Board about next steps.

The meeting adjourned at 9:53am.