Minutes
Special Meeting
Curriculum Committee
Wednesday, December 11, 2024@ 2:30 p.m.
Central Office
Conference Room

Board Committee Members Present
Alice Jones, Chair
Chris Matta
Michael Carbonneau

Absent
Jim Crocker

Also Present
Brian Murphy, Superintendent
Taryn Fernandez, Director of Teaching and Learning
Myke Kuslis, Principal, Nonnewaug High School
Katie Yocis
Conor Gereg
Jamie Lisevick
Katy Aseltine
Kelly Nichols

I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

II. Curriculum Documents for Approval

A. English (Creative Writing Curriculum)

- Katy Aseltine/Conor Gereg/Kelly Nichols presented
- Course broken down into 5 units
- College and Career Readiness Standards and research opportunities through college-level databases, results in a personal piece that students can showcase
- Valuable class for soft skills in life, give and take feedback, easy to place VoL attributes throughout
- Students excited about Sci-Fi short fiction and opportunity to teach social commentary as well
- Poetry portfolio with a multimodal component

Motion
A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve the curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

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B. English (Global Contexts/Multicultural Perspectives Curriculum

- Katy Aseltine presented
- Much of the course is based on students reading texts concerning global issues in society
- First quarter, students are given the opportunity to choose the global issue they want to research utilizing databases to develop their knowledge
- Students will write a research paper and create a presentation for the class

Motion

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

C. Math (Pre-Calculus Curriculum)

- Jamie Lisevick presented
- Pre-calculus is the bridge between Algebra 2 and Calculus
- Semester one focuses on Algebra 2, ability to graph polynomial functions based on knowledge of a function without a graphing calculator
- Semester two focuses on trig functions, which prepares students for Calculus
- Changes to Pre-calculus college prep and Pre-calculus honors (honors students move on to calculus in high school, whereas students in college prep tend to enroll in college calculus courses
- Separate rationales unit for college prep

Motion

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

D. Science (Forensics Curriculum)

Katie Yocis presented

- Half-year elective geared towards students interested in criminal science or crime scene investigation, more hands-on opportunities
- Power of observation, different careers that use observation
- Mini crime scenes set up in class, most assessments are hands-on opportunities

Motion

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

III. Proposed Revisions to Graduation Requirements

Presented by Brian Murphy, Mykal Kuslis and Taryn Fernandez

- Significant and needed changes have been made to the high school graduation requirements
- Proposing two additional revisions encompassing Social Studies and Fine Arts, which will lead to

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a very full experience at Nonnewaug High School, prepare students for college, a career, and the SATs
- Proposed a full, traditional year of Art, Music, or Technology
- Proposed a 3-credit requirement in social studies, opposed to the current 2-1/2 credits

Motion

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve the proposed Fine Arts and Social Studies graduation requirements for the incoming freshmen, who will graduate in 2029, as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

IV. Adjourn

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to adjourn the meeting at 3:35 p.m., all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



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

APPROVED