

# **Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee Meeting**

**January 14, 2025**

**Suffield Middle School Room C120**

Attendees: Board members Maureen Sattan, Gianna Rossi, Debra Dudack, Superintendent Matt Dunbar, Assistant Superintendent Michelle Zawawi, Justin Kaput, Nikki Kupec, Gina Olearczyk, Melissa Todd, Kris Pryce, Erin Shea (arrived 8:45 am), Sam Harfenist (arrived 8:45 am)

**Call to Order at 8:33 am**

## **Place Based Science (Elementary Science Discussion)**

Justin Kaput presented a potential opportunity to bring this programming to Suffield's elementary schools. Place-based science is a transdisciplinary teaching method that connects students to their local communities and environments to learn science. Board members expressed generalized support. Fact-gathering, coalition building and planning will continue.

*Erin Shea and Sam Harfenist arrived at 8:45 am.*

*Nikki Kupec, Gina Olearczyk, Melissa Todd, and Kris Pryce left the meeting at 9:05 am.*

## **SHS Course Approval – Chemistry in the Community**

Erin Shea and Sam Harfenist presented the course proposal for a Chemistry in the Community (ChemCom) to supplement the science offerings as a co-taught, hands-on alternative to the traditional academic-level chemistry class.

## **SHS Course Approval – Advanced Manufacturing**

Anthony Hibbert presented the course proposal for an Advanced Manufacturing Design class, which is intended to supplement the SHS Career Technical Education (CTE) offerings. It will have a focus on CAD (Computer Aided Design) and CAM (Computer Aided Manufacturing).

Board members expressed support for both classes, while asking the administration to be mindful of class sizes after the student course selection numbers are determined. The SHS

Program of Studies will list the course as being subject to Board approval, which is anticipated to take place at the February 2025 Board meeting.

*Erin Shea and Sam Harfenist left the meeting at 9:20 am.*

#### **SHS Science Course Sequence Discussion**

Anthony Hibbert and Michelle Zawawi discussed widening opportunities for very highly qualified students to take Honors Biology as ninth graders, rather than taking the traditional ninth grade Environment, Physics and Chemistry (EPAC) course.

**Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned at 9:51 am.**