Minutes
Special Meeting
Curriculum Committee
Wednesday, February 26, 2025, 2:30 p.m.
Central Office Conference Room

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Board Committee Members Present
Alice Jones, Chair
Jim Crocker
Chris Matta

Absent
Michael Carbonneau

Also Present
Brian Murphy, Superintendent
Taryn Fernandez, Director of Teaching and Learning
Genna Riggi, Digital
Marisa Bedron, Agriscience
Andrew Zielinski, Agriscience
Kelly Nichols, English

I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 2:31 p.m.

II. Curriculum Documents for Approval

A. AP Engineering Grade 10

- Course continues Grade 9 foundation work and prepares for Grades 11-12
- Curriculum includes:
  - Electrical systems
  - Welding
  - Small engines
- Currently serves 3-4 groups of 15+ students each
- Small engines identified as most popular component with students

Motion
A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The curriculum will be brought to the full board for review and approval.

B. Equine Science (11/12) Comprehensive Care and Management of Equine Animals

- Course offers a thorough exploration into the multi-faceted world of equine care, management, and facility design
- Designed for students interested in equine sciences, veterinary studies, or careers in the equine industry

- Comprehensive program covers critical aspects of horse health and stable management
- Students enrolled in this course and its pair (Equine Biology and Evolution) are eligible for University of Connecticut Early College Experience (ECE) credit

Motion

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The curriculum will be brought to the full board for review and approval.

C. Equine Science (11/12) Equine Biology and Evolution

- Course provides an in-depth exploration of equine biology
- Designed for students with interests in veterinary medicine, equine science, or zoology
- Course blends theoretical knowledge with practical insights into equine anatomy, physiology, and reproductive biology
- Students enrolled in this course and its pair (Equine Science Comprehensive Care and Management of Equine Animals) are eligible for University of Connecticut Early College Experience (ECE) credit

Motion

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The curriculum will be brought to the full board for review and approval.

D. Digital Design I

- Course provides 4 UConn credits for lab work
- Curriculum splits year between Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop
- Key components include:
  - Branding identity projects
  - Typography and poster design
  - Magazine editorial work
  - Final summative website portfolio using WIX
- ECE Coordinator from UConn conducts final critique for grade submission

Motion

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The curriculum will be brought to the full board for review and approval.

E. AP Calculus AB

- Course designed to be the equivalent of a first-semester college calculus course
- Key topics include limits and continuity, derivatives, integrals, and differential equations

Motion

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the

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curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The curriculum will be brought to the full board for review and approval.

III. Course Proposals

A. Music Appreciation

- New half-credit course designed for fine arts graduation requirement
- Open to all students regardless of musical background
- Course focuses on exposure to diverse musical styles and critical listening
- Designed to potentially lead students into band or chorus programs

Motion

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the new course proposal as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The proposal will be brought to the full board for review and approval.

B. Music Fundamentals and Ear Training

- Course is designed to foster an appreciation of art of music
- There are no prerequisites for the class
- The course provides a broad vision of artistic and humanistic themes

Motion

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the new course proposal as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The proposal will be brought to the full board for review and approval.

C. The Writer's Studio/ENGL 3082

- Approved as new ECE course (English 3082)
- Only the 7th school in Connecticut to offer this writing center program
- Course structure:
    - Self-reflection on writing and learning styles
    - Community research and problem-solving
    - Writing center tutoring training
- Students can earn credit for working in writing center after completing course
- Current pilot program training seniors during focus periods

Motion

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the new course proposal as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The proposal will be brought to the full board for review and approval.

IV. Textbook Proposal

A. AP Environmental Science Textbook

- Replaces 2012 edition textbooks

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- Includes updated environmental factors and current content
- Typically serves 30 students across two class sections

Motion

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the textbook proposal as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The proposal will be brought to the full board for review and approval.

V. Adjourn

Alice Jones made a motion, seconded by Jim Crocker, to adjourn the meeting at 3:27 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

"Minutes created with assistance of Circleback AI"

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