Minutes
Special Meeting
Curriculum Committee
Wednesday, June 11, 2025, 1:00 p.m.
Central Office Conference Room

APPROVED

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

I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

II. Curriculum Documents for Approval

A. AP/UConn Environmental Science (Katie Yocis)

- Course covers 9 units including living world ecosystems, biodiversity, earth systems, energy resources, and greenhouse effect
- Incorporates hands-on activities like measuring trees for carbon sink, pond food web studies, and parking lot biodiversity surveys
- Final ECE unit includes river study project broken into components throughout year, ending with comprehensive river site analysis
- Course includes creative projects like fashion show using only recycled materials

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. Physics (William Pease)

- Curriculum updated for new vision of learning expectations with traditional college-level physics approach
- Added sensors and computer data collection tools for lab work and data analysis

Motion

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C. English 11:Surviving the Journey – A Literary Perspective (Kelly Nichols)

- Curriculum focuses on 4 units: hero's journey, adolescent journey, journey from home, and journey towards future
- Course incorporates multiple writing styles including persuasive, explanatory, and narrative writing that functions as college essay drafts
- Students complete philosophical journey project where they plan real-life trips to explore personal values like determination or happiness
- Course designed for struggling learners with choice between canonical and current texts

Motion

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D. Building Bridges B (Kellie Barber/Renee Harris)

- Program serves freshmen students who will continue to year 2 next year
- Restructured from previous mixed-grade format to focus on freshmen and sophomores together
- Students receive service hours based on IEP needs and work on specific skill development in resource periods
- Program provides bridge between middle school and high school with different schedules and exam preparation

Motion

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E. Marketing 1 (Devon Bares)

- Curriculum structured as intro to business course covering **7** functions of marketing
- Course units include market planning, economics, international business, social responsibility/ethics, selling, promotion and advertising
- Class enrollment mixed across grade levels
- Course integrates DECA extracurricular activities and school store operations

Motion

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F. UConn ECE Personal Finance (Devon Bares)

- New ECE version through UConn
- Course requires Algebra 1 prerequisite and targets upperclassmen rather than freshmen
- Added 2 new units: comprehensive tax preparation including W4 and 1040 forms, and paying for college with financial aid applications
- Students complete year-long personal finance simulation making weekly decisions on car purchases, house buying, and bill payments
- ECE version offers 3 UConn credits per semester
- Next year will have 2 ECE sections and 3 traditional personal finance sections

Motion

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G. AP French (Kate Peterson/Matt Greaves)

- Curriculum with 6 units: families/traditions, influence of beauty/culture, science/technology effects, search for oneself, contemporary life, and global challenges
- Course uses interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational communication modes
- Students engage in philosophical discussions about beauty standards and cultural differences entirely in French
- Curriculum covers topics like marketing influence, heroism, and environmental issues from French perspective
- Course prepares students for challenging AP exam after 4 years of French study starting in 8th grade

Motion

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III. Course Proposal

A. Dual Credit French 4 through ECSU (Kate Peterson)

- New ECE course through Eastern Connecticut State University
- Course targets AP French and French 4 Honors students at novice high to intermediate proficiency levels
- Course meets world language and humanities graduation requirements

Motion

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

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IV. Adjourn

The meeting at 1:49 p.m.

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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