BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2026
Via Zoom Meeting

PRESENT
Angelo Amato, Chair
Shannon Lane
Allyson Wuerth

OTHERS PRESENT
Kai Byrd
Cheryl Kiesel
Tom Reed-Swale

ABSENT
Joseph Cafasso

Call to Order Mr. Amato called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Minutes **Motion** by Amato, seconded by Lane to approve the October 1, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. *The motion carries 2 yes (Amato,Lane), 1 abstain (Wuerth), 1 absent (Cafasso)*

Business **Curriculum & Professional Learning Update**
Professional development:

Ms. Kiesel reported that professional development continues through collaboration with BOWA colleagues, including sixth grade representatives from Bethany, Orange, Woodbridge, and Amity. These meetings focus on sharing resources and aligning instruction to support student readiness for middle school. Feedback from both teachers and the middle school has been positive, noting strong preparation of Bethany students. Recent collaboration included media specialists, with science, math, and language arts having met earlier in the year.

Two special education teachers are currently participating in Orton Gillingham training, a research-based approach to reading instruction for students with dyslexia. This week-long training was conducted in partnership with Amity, with a shared presenter for both districts.

A full day of coaching from Amplify is scheduled to support K–3 teachers. The Amplify representative will observe classrooms and provide feedback and guidance. This is the second year of implementation for the Amplify resource, which was purchased through grant funding and is required by the State of Connecticut.

An early dismissal is scheduled for January 16, allowing teachers extended time for data team meetings to review student progress.

APPROVED

Additional professional development in mathematics will take place on January 22, led by Robin Moore, for a small group of teachers.

Curriculum

Ms. Kiesel reported that mid-year benchmark assessments have begun in math and reading. These assessments will be used to evaluate student progress and to inform small group instruction, as well as identify students in need of additional intervention or enrichment.

The committee requested future updates on math and report cards.

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Future Meeting Agenda Items

- Approval of the January 7, 2026 meeting minutes
- Curriculum & Professional Learning Update
- Content Presentation

Kai Byrd
Recorder

APPROVED