DRAFT – Curriculum Committee

Summary Minutes

Date: February 2, 2026
Time: 7:30 p.m. – 8:39 p.m.
Location: Havemeyer Building
Committee: Curriculum Committee
Presiding: Paul Cappiali, Chair

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1. Call to Order and Attendance

Chair Paul Cappiali called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Committee Members Present

- Paul Cappiali, Chair
- Veronica Chiavaroli, Member

Committee Member Absent

- Wendy Vizzo-Walsh (excused)

Administration Present

- Dr. Toni Jones, Superintendent of Schools

Members of the Public Present

- Lisa Sylvester, President, Greenwich PTA Council (present; limited participation)
- Chrissy Schwartzstein, Vice President of Curriculum, Greenwich PTA Council (participated with feedback)
- Lisa Small, Secretary, Greenwich PTA Council (participated with feedback)

A quorum was present.

Chair Cappiali noted an error in the published agenda regarding committee membership and clarified that the intended committee members are Wendy Vizzo-Walsh, Veronica Chiavaroli, and himself.

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2. Purpose of the Committee

Chair Cappiali reviewed the initial purpose of the committee:

- The committee was envisioned as a Board-level committee to evaluate screen time and digital learning tools in Greenwich Public Schools.
- The Chair prepared a draft template to begin examining screen time and digital tools, noting that it is an initial framework.
- The committee acknowledged the need to clarify and formalize its objectives.
- An additional suggested purpose is to increase transparency in the activities of the Administrative Curriculum Committee by formalizing this Board committee. This would allow information to be communicated during Board business meetings through Committee Reports and provide the public with improved access to curriculum-related information.

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3. Relationship to the Administrative Curriculum Committee

The committee discussed its relationship to the existing Administrative Curriculum Committee:

- The Administrative Curriculum Committee reviews textbooks and other curriculum materials.
- It typically includes two Board members as liaisons.
- Members noted the importance of coordination and alignment without overreach.
- The committee emphasized that it is not intended to disrupt or duplicate the work of the Administrative Curriculum Committee.

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4. Coordination, Curriculum Team Involvement, and Board Understanding

Key discussion points included:

Curriculum Team Involvement

Dr. Jones emphasized that effective curriculum oversight requires participation from:

- Curriculum coordinators (e.g., mathematics, ELA),
- Other key staff with direct knowledge of classroom instruction and materials.

Board Education and Communication

Members discussed:

- Varying levels of Board understanding of curriculum areas, including mathematics and high school seminar programs.

- The role of retreats and in-depth presentations in supporting Board members' understanding of the Pre-K through Grade 12 continuum.

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5. Public Involvement

Chair Cappiali noted that, unlike the Administrative Curriculum Committee, this Curriculum Committee may:

- Provide a public forum for curriculum-related concerns, including screen time and digital learning tools.
- Offer a venue for public feedback and questions on curriculum matters.

It was noted that procedures for public comment and participation will be considered at future meetings.

Members of the public present provided feedback and comments related to curriculum transparency and communication.

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6. Action Item

Distribution of Curriculum-Related Policies

- **Action:** Provide printed copies of curriculum-related Board policies to committee members and have additional copies available for attendees.
- **Responsible:** Chair Paul Cappiali

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7. Adjournment

Mr. Cappiali made a motion to adjourn.
Mrs. Chiavaroli seconded.

There was no discussion and no objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Cappiali
February 3, 2026