



Board of Education Curriculum, Instruction, and Equity Committee

March 24, 2026

Time 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Board of Education Room

Minutes

Present: P. Sullivan-Nunes, P. Nagarajan, B. Bass (ex-officio), P. Mussolini, J. Falino, K. Slentz

The committee convened the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

1. Framing the work

Committee

- a. Review and approval of the agenda

The committee approved the agenda.

2. Updates and Recommendations

Administration

- a. Using Technology to Improve Student Outcomes: Presentation overview

The committee discussed the recent presentation by the building administrators and provided feedback on the strengths and areas for future consideration.

- b. Project updates

- i. UPK planning and next steps
- ii. Summer Eagles Academy update

K. Slentz provided the committee with an update on the status of the two programs. UPK was on track for implementation in the fall of 2026, with the lottery selection of students planned for Early April. The summer academy may not be able to run this year, as we are not where we need to be in our preparation and communications. Mr. Slentz will confirm the status of the program shortly.

- c. NY Inspires: Graduation Measures actions by the Board of Regents

K. Slentz updated the committee on the recent release of guidance for the Financial Literacy Education requirement for school districts. K. Slentz has updated the district's tracking document with this information.

- d. NYS Seal of Biliteracy: First year implementation

J. Falino updated the committee on the status of the first administration of the seal of biliteracy work at the high school. Seven students completed the requirements for the seal.

3. Discussion Items

- a. Middle and high school science progression

J. Falino updated the committee on how the science program and associated courses have evolved over the years and provided the rationale for the many changes that have occurred. This included a description of how the IB program has grown and how Science Research has grown from a very niche program to now

having over fifty students enrolled.

b. New elective course for DFMS

P. Mussolini presented a recommendation for adding a science research elective to the middle school course offerings that would provide a higher level/higher rigor course in place of the current Regents-based Earth Science course. The Earth Science course would be discontinued in future years to allow for a more comprehensive middle school science course design. The committee supports the recommended changes.

c. [International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme](#): overview, history, and alignment to our strategic points of focus.

K. Slentz updated the committee on recent fact-gathering meetings that he has attended with DF staff and IB leadership on the possibility of further exploring the Primary Years Programme. This exploration will continue at this summer's IB conference.

4. **Next Meeting Date**

Committee

a. April 28, 2026

- i. Implementing the [NYSED-required instruction](#) in Personal Finance and Climate Education

5. **Adjourn**

Committee

The committee adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.