Minutes
Special Meeting
Curriculum Committee
Thursday, April 23, 2026; 2:15 p.m.
Central Office Conference Room

APPROVED

Board Committee Members Present	**Absent**
Alice Jones, Chair	
Jim Crocker	
Michael Carbonneau	
Carol Ann Brown	

Also Present

Brian Murphy, Superintendent
Taryn Fernandez, Director of Teaching and Learning
Myke Kuslis, Principal, Nonnewaug High School
Becky Trzaski, Social Studies
Devon Bares, Business
Toby Denman, Science
Jen Jedd, Agriscience

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:21 p.m.

II. Curriculum Documents for Approval

A. Entrepreneurship Curriculum

The curriculum is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to create, manage, and operate a business. The course emphasizes identifying business opportunities, launching a venture based on those opportunities, and effectively running and sustaining it. Students will also explore career pathways that can lead to business ownership and gain an understanding of the role taxes play in entrepreneurship.

Motion

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the Entrepreneurship 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. Agriculture and Society/UConn SPSS1150 Curriculum

The curriculum explores how agricultural systems and technologies have developed and influenced societies. Topics include plant and animal domestication, major technological advances, food and industrial crops, production regions, environmental issues, public opinions

on agricultural practices, and agricultural ethics.

Motion
A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Michael Carbonneau to accept/approve the Agriculture and Society/UConn SPSS1150 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. Textbook Proposals

A. Biology by Miller & Levine – College and Career Prep Level Biology

Significantly updates current resources for CP Biology. It provides embedded text to speech and translation software. It also includes a clear delineation of activities and how they align with NGSS.

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

B. American Government Stories of a Nation by Abernathy & Waples – AP American Government

Updated edition of the current textbook. The current textbook has yielded strong results on the AP exam. Students report that the book is easy to understand and provides helpful tips/text prep activities. The first edition only includes examples up until the 2016 presidential primary. Since the book weaves engaging narratives to illustrate course concepts, an edition that goes through the 2024 presidential election as so much has changed since 2016 will be helpful.

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

C. Essentials of Human Anatomy & Physiology by Marieb & Keller – Anatomy of Physiology

Significantly updates current resources for Anatomy & Physiology. It provides embedded text to speech and translation software. It has many embedded career and phenomena-based videos and learning activities and also brings resources into the 21st century with guided animation-based lessons.

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

APPROVED

IV. **Grade Point Average Informational Update**

A. Grade Point Average for the Class of 2030 and Beyond

- A student's grade point average (GPA) will be calculated in two ways, unweighted grade point average and cumulative weighted grade point average
- Unweighted GPA will be utilized to determine honor roll status
- The Cumulative Weighted GPA is determined at the end of each semester and is inclusive of all completed coursework at the high school
- Aligned with practices of many other schools across the state in converting a student's percent score in each course to a quality point
- Three course levels, College Experience, Honors, College and Career Preparatory

V. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:09 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 "Chatgpt"

APPROVED