

# Curriculum Committee Meeting

## Wednesday, September 30, 2026

*Generated by Jackie Reed on Friday, October 2, 2026*

### 1. OPENING ITEMS

A. Call to Order at 4:05 pm

Present: Aubree Malick, Jen Kless, Jen Mahar, Dr. Genelle Morris, Steve Carlson (4:30), Cathy Young, Jackie Reed, Steve Ahl, Lori Anastasia, Rachel Auman, Erin Douthit

### 2. PRESENTATIONS

A. STAR Program Overview

Summer Star Program Overview:

Jen Mahar - Over 200 students participated, which is an increase over last year (approx. 177). Each year they try to add to the program. This year, they added 7th grade. In the past high school students were hired to work the STAR program, which the program hopes to incorporate again in the future if funding can be found.

Steve Ahl -The STAR Program is unique because it combines enrichment and remediation, connects curriculum to the show/arts.

Although the program is centered around the children, it also builds a great opportunity for community collaboration.

Examples are Challenger Center and Olean Theater Workshop.

Channel 7 (WKBW) ran a feature story on the program.

The program offers breakfast and lunch completely free.

Students have an opportunity to have basic needs met while enriching creativity.

Lori Anastasia - thanked Jen Mahar, Steve Ahl for continuing Nick and Leslie Patrone's work of always finding the right place for students. While some students are not comfortable in certain roles, they always find a place in the program where they can feel included and successful. Commented on the ability to get the show together with only 19 days of preparation.

Rachel Auman -Worked with rising 4th grade STAR students, who seem more well-prepared as they enter 4th grade. The 4th grade teachers carry the STAR program into the classroom in the fall.

Erin Douthit - The teachers work to connect the program electives to the curriculum, incorporating books that relate to the activity. For example the Cornell Co-Op connection to "Horton Hears a Moo" which is a lesson for the students on how to make dairy products. utter to teach students how to make dairy products. Students were so excited about the program.

Discussion: The board supports this wonderful program and expressed gratitude to the teachers for thir passion, dedication and success of this program. The STAR program would like the Board's support in finding funding sources to have the high school students return in paid positions to help them build confidence and self-esteem in students.

#### B. Special Summer Projects Overview

Jen Mahar: Special Projects

Special Projects are short-term offerings that interested teachers share with students for a short time over the summer. They are presented across a broad range of grades, presented by a single teacher, a pair, or a group, and scheduled around the STAR program to allow maximum participation.

They can last from a couple of hours to two weeks to present students with opportunities in three areas:

Well-rounded Education - Supports, Arts, and Enrichment

Safe & Healthy Students - Physical, Mental, and Social Well-Being

Effective Use of Technology -How to Apply STEM Skills

A few examples are:

Music: Band Lessons, Band Camp, String

Physical: Lifting, Miles of Memories

Go Nuts, students walk to the Olean Squirrels and have speakers explain the meaning behind the squirrel. This offers enrichment, and an interest in Olean as well as a connection and positive interaction with the community.

Entrepreneurship Experience was a new program this year with participants creating t-shirts.

Jen Kless: Summer Curriculum Proposals and Professional Learning

42 Curriculum Proposals were received involving 219 teachers (some teachers did multiple proposals)

The proposals are tied to District Goals.

Examples include the following, but many other were offered as well that are not listed:

Curriculum Proposals

Dual Enrollment - SBU and JCC

Financial Literacy

Science - New Science Curriculum 6-8 to get training and learn the new curriculum, Earth Science, Physics

Music - Teachers cataloged music to digitize resources

Art - Created a Scope and Sequence for K-7 Art

New Teachers and Teachers moving to new assignments were given 20 hours for curriculum work to prepare for instruction and receive training on curriculum or and other areas needed to prepare to instruct students.

CA BOCES Workshop for Professional Learning:

SEL Camp

Writing Revolution

TECCC Camp

Dream It Do It - Some of the participants are already connected to work-based students, in conjunction with CA BOCES which will tie in with NY Inspires.

K-Math Institute

Social Studies Symposium

Anxious Generation Book Study

Revitalize and Reconnect: Self-Care for Educators

Ellin Keen Presents

AP Coursework (dual enrollment courses)

Teachers are given 20 hours each to prepare to deliver that course

PD continues throughout the school year.

Erin Douthit Reported on the BOCES Math K-5 CLC (Math and Movement)

[www.mathmovement.com](http://www.mathmovement.com) for more information

This program provides floor mats as hands on manipulatives that allow students to sit on the floor and incorporate movement with math.

Ms. Douthit applied for a grant through the OCSD Foundation to purchase a set of the mats for trial use in her classroom. Feels this would be a helpful supplement the new math curriculum.

[mathmovement.com/product/fifth-grade-math-kit](http://mathmovement.com/product/fifth-grade-math-kit)

New teachers hired closer to the start of school still get their 20 hours, just after school at the beginning of the year.

Hiring over the past 5 or 6 years has been done in a much more efficient way to allow the district to support teachers.

### **3. ADJOURNMENT**

A. Adjournment at 5:15 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 29, 2026, at 4:00 at the PLC.