Curriculum Committee Board Agenda
Tuesday, November 3, 2026
4:30 pm
Central Office Conference Room

1. Call to Order

2. Review and Approval of the Minutes:
   September 22, 2026, Curriculum Committee meeting (Enclosure 1)

3. Textbook proposal: UConn ECE-KINS 1100 – Exercise & Wellness for Everyone (Enclosure 2)
   Chris Rau, LSM Principal & Erik McKay, K-12 Wellness Coordinator (1st read)

4. Screen time usage in RSD 10 and Co-Pilot rollout (update):
   Vonetta Romeo-Rivers, Director of Teaching & Learning & Joe Sousa, Director of Technology.

Enclosure 1

Region 10 Board of Education
Curriculum Committee Minutes
Tuesday, September 22, 2026
4:30 PM
Central Office Conference Room

Present: Scott Ragaglia (Co-Chair), Rachel McFadden (Co-Chair), Matt Szydlo, Cassandra DuBois, Scott Savelle, Vonetta Romeo-Rivers (Director of Teaching & Learning), Fran Thompson (Superintendent), Chris Rau (Principal LSM), Eric McKay (Wellness Coordinator K-12)

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:33 pm.

2. A motion was made to approve the minutes of our meeting held on May 19, 2026, as written by Rachel McFadden and seconded by Matt Szydlo, approved unanimously.

3. Eric and Vonetta led a discussion regarding a new proposed UCONN ECE Course: ECE-KINS 1100. Exercise & Wellness for Everyone focuses on the 5 pillars for lifelong good health and would be offered to students in grade 11 & 12. It would replace the non-ECE course offered called Personal Safety. Three teachers at LSM are interested in being certified to teach the course. Once they are approved by UCONN they will go through the qualification steps late spring or 2027 to become certified instructors. Based on the planned timeline, the course can be offered to students to take in the Fall of 2027. The committee voted unanimously on the offering, and it will be presented to the BOE during the October meeting for first read. Textbook and online aspects of the course will be presented at the next curriculum meeting.

4. Back to school update: Good start of the school year. Only one key position open, which is for a school Psychologist at HCS, but the position is posted. In about a week a benchmark assessment will be completed regarding where each student is in their learning process. Information will go out to parents regarding how they can partner with the school to assist in their child's optimal learning experience.

5. New Staff & Faculty Orientation Overview: 23 certified and 13 non-certified new hires. Attracting more qualified candidates; 5-6 brand new teachers; collecting data re climate policies and increased effort throughout the district; growing excitement; unifying messages; setting Benchmarks; creating Open Houses to share messages. Student involvement to hear their voices.

6. Wit & Wisdom rollout K-4 is going well with both teacher and students are embracing. More feedback to come.

Adjourn @ 6pm.

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Enclosure 2

RECOMMENDATION FOR ADOPTION OF TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS FOR CLASSROOM USE (K-12)

Date: 9/24/26

PROCEDURE

Title: Health Now: An Integrative Approach to Personal Health v4.0
Author, Editor, or Compiler: Linda B. White & Jennifer K. Frediani
Type of Material: Textbook
Publisher or Producer: Flatworld
Publication Date: 2024
List Price: $61.95
ISBN-979-8-88794-085-4 (Digital) ISBN-979-8-88794-084-7 (Paperback)
Recommended for use in grade: 11th & 12th
Subject Area: Wellness- UConn ECE Selective
Recommended by: Erik McKay & UConn ECE Program (This is the assigned textbook by UConn)

PURCHASE OPTIONS * **See attached breakdown for details of various textbook options**

	Year 1	Each subsequent year (2-6)	Total for 7 Years
Flatworld **RECOMMENDED**	$61.95 x 25 = $1,548.75 (Shipping $83.00) Total Cost- $1631.75	15 licensures/yr @ $34.95= $524.25 (5 additional years TOTAL = $2,621,25 (Accessibility Tool)	**$4,253**
Amazon (V- 3.2, 4.0 not available on Amazon currently)	$94.00 x 25 = $2,350.00 (Free Shipping w/ Amazon) Total Cost- $2,350.00	15 licensures/yr @ $34.95= $524.25 (5 additional year TOTAL = $2,621.25 (Accessibility Tool)	**$4,971.25**
Vital Source	n/a	15 licensures/yr @ $64.95= $974.25 (5 additional year TOTAL = $4,871.25 (Accessibility Tool)	**$4,871.25 (Still no paperback copies included with this option)**

HOW DO THESE MATERIALS RATE?

1. **To what extent do these materials enhance the present curriculum? (for example e.g. the course goals, objectives)**
   This text will be used as the consistent resource for students taking the UConn ECE Exercise & Wellness for Everyone (KINS 1100) and will help them gain a firm, guided understanding of the subject/content/ topics of the course. The paperback text is noticeably more current when compared to other texts and is the required/assigned text for the ECE/UConn class.

2. **What is the readability level (DRP) and please explain below the suitability of the material for the grade level.**
   DRP NOT AVAILABLE. The text is meant for college-aged students, typically aged 18, but appropriate for a Grade 11/12 UConn ECE class. In addition to this, there are online resources that will help students

access the material/text with technology and include video segments or additional readings to help students access the material.

3. **Is there a specific targeted student audience?**
   The textbook is targeted for juniors/seniors who are enrolled in the UConn Early College Experience (ECE) - Exercise & Wellness for Everyone. This class will be offered to juniors & seniors as a Wellness selective and earn 3 UConn credits upon successful completion/passing grade of the class. (currently a grade of C or higher as dictated by UCONN).

4. **Are any critical reviews available to assist in determining appropriateness?**
   Critical reviews are unavailable for the text, but this text has been vetted by UCONN and has been in use as a required text for this course in excess of four years, including earlier published versions of the text.

5. **How does the content of the material add to the intellectual, social, and emotional development of the students?**

   Based on the stated goals and features of Health Now: An Integrative Approach to Personal Health v4.0, the material supports students' intellectual, social, and emotional development by promoting health literacy, critical thinking, personal responsibility, and informed decision-making. The text encourages students to evaluate credible health information, understand the effects of lifestyle choices, and develop skills for maintaining lifelong wellness.

   Socially, the text helps students recognize how personal health behaviors affect relationships, families, communities, and the broader environment. Topics such as diversity, contemporary health issues, and discussion-based learning activities encourage respect for others, effective communication, and awareness of different perspectives.

   Emotionally, the textbook promotes self-reflection through self-assessments, discussion questions, and wellness-focused content that helps students develop self-awareness, stress-management strategies, healthy habits, and the confidence to make positive health choices. Its emphasis on prevention, healthy aging, and overall well-being supports students in developing resilience and lifelong healthy behaviors

6. **Identify any material or sensitive issues or ideas presented in the textbook.**
   After speaking with the UConn ECE advisor, the following chapters/content are **not** a part of the coursework for this particular class.
   - Ch. 7- Sexual & Reproductive Health
   - Ch. 12- Personal Safety
   - Ch. 13- Immune System Health
   - Ch. 16. Environmental Health
     - Ch. 6- Social & Gender Health (Only the social health sec 6.1- Defining Social Health) is covered, which explores the influence of social connectedness on health factors that foster healthy relationships.

7. **How will the teaching staff deal with these areas?**
   When addressing topics related to social health (all instruction/lessons will **exclude** topics on sex, gender, and sexual relationships). Topics and lessons will be facilitated by developmentally and age-appropriate discussions that emphasize respect, empathy, personal responsibility, and healthy decision-making. Instruction will focus on helping students understand the concepts of social health, healthy relationships, and internal/external influences outside of sexual health. As outlined in the course approval document submitted and approved by the subcommittee on September 22nd, 2026, covered topics will be in chapters 1 – 6, 8 – 11, 14, 15. (See copy of the text submitted for review).

Teachers will create a safe, inclusive, and respectful learning environment where students are encouraged to consider diverse perspectives, respect individual differences, and recognize the impact of their choices on themselves and others. As previously mentioned, there will be no conversation in the chapters on gender/sexuality. The focus of the course and use of the text will be on social health with an emphasis on communication skills, mutual respect and emotional well-being.

All instruction will align with district expectations, state standards, and school policies while remaining sensitive to the developmental needs and maturity levels of students in grades 11 and 12.

8. To what extent does the material allow for flexible grouping?

More so than the text allowing for flexible grouping, our High-Quality Learning components that guide our instructional design and delivery will ensure.

9. To what extent does the material meet the district guidelines on gender equity?

Health Now: An Integrative Approach to Personal Health v4.0 appears to strongly support district guidelines related to gender equity by presenting health information in an inclusive and respectful manner. The textbook includes contemporary coverage of diverse health topics and emphasizes the importance of understanding health issues across diverse populations. The content promotes respect for individual differences, avoids limiting discussions to traditional gender roles, and encourages students to consider health and wellness from multiple perspectives. Based on the available review materials, the text provides equitable access to health information and supports an inclusive learning environment for all students.

The material generally aligns with district expectations for gender equity by representing diverse identities and experiences within a health education context while focusing on evidence-based health literacy, wellness, and personal decision-making.

10. To what extent is the format attractive and pleasing and, if appropriate, to what extent is the material up-to-date?

The format is that of a standard textbook, with an appropriate number of illustrations, visual aids, charts, discussion activities, etc. The latest edition was published in 2024 and covers current/up to date information as of that time.

11. Was this textbook piloted? If so, please summarize the pilot results.

n/a- This book was not piloted at LSM

12. What supplemental aids come with the materials?

Health Now: An Integrative Approach to Personal Health v4.0 is supported by a variety of supplemental instructional aids designed to enhance student learning and teacher implementation. These materials include an instructor's manual, presentation slides, test banks, integrated quizzes, flashcards, and an online homework system. The text also features more than 60 curated video links, chapter podcasts, self-assessments, discussion questions, key terms, learning objectives, and end-of-section key takeaways that reinforce content and promote student engagement. In addition, the digital platform provides searchable online access and AI-supported study tools to assist students in reviewing and understanding course material. Flatworld uses its own proprietary AI tool, only meant to support the textbook and is a closed-circuit instrument.

13. Technology/Software uses?

There is an online version of the textbook, which includes online resources. The online resources are mentioned above and allow students access to different materials such as current events, essay/multiple choice questions, additional readings, video lectures, etc.

14. Teachers Guides/Manuals, Transparencies/Journals/Workbooks?

The teaching resources in the manual include:

- Homework
- Instructor's Manual
- PowerPoint Lecture Notes
- Test/Quizzes
- Other Supplements (Video learning segments, cases, lab manuals, etc.)

15. Any assessments/tests, books provided?

Yes, there is a test/quiz bank that comes at the end of each chapter, which include multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and discussion/open ended questions. Questions are categorized by chapter, making it easy to build tests/quizzes that are meaningful to the content being taught. The ECE-approved course syllabus directs major assessments, including long-term projects and the weights of the categories within the course.

Approved by the Coordinator _____ Date 10/30/26

Reviewed by Principal(s) _____ Date 10/30/26

Reviewed by Dir. of Teaching & Learning Donetta Romeo-Rivera Date 10.20.26

Reviewed by Curriculum Committee _____ Date _____

Approved by Board of Education _____ Date _____

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