**Minutes**
**Special Meeting**
**Curriculum Committee**
**Monday, November 16, 2026, 2:15pm**
**Central Office Conference Room**

APPROVED

| **Board Committee Members Present** | **Absent** |
|---|---|
| Alice Jones, Chair | n/a |
| Carol Ann Brown | |
| Mike Carbonneau | |
| Jim Crocker | |

**Also Present**
Brian Murphy, Superintendent
Taryn Fernandez, Director of Teaching and Learning
Shannon Belanger, Math Department Chair
Lauren O'Brien, Math
Ray Robillard, Math
Conor Gereg, English
Leeza Desjardins, Art
Jamie Odell, Fine Arts Director

## I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:19pm

## II. Curriculum Documents for Approval

### A. Algebra 1B

- The full Algebra 1 curriculum is split across **2** years (1A and 1B), giving students more time to build foundational skills; Students taking this class have completed Algebra 1A
- The course covers 4 units: Systems of Equations and Inequalities; Two-variable statistics; Exponential Relationships; and Polynomial and Quadratic Functions
- This structure gives students in the class the time needed to fully learn the material

**Motion**

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the Algebra 1B 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. SAT/NGSS Preparation Workshop

- This is a half year course and is in its 3rd year of being offered
- The curriculum has 3 components – English, Math and NGSS. The material covered directly aligns with material on the SAT/NGSS tests
- This is a highly personalized course to meet the identified needs of the students in terms of standards in need of review

**Motion**

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

### C. Ukulele – 7th Grade Music

- This course has 4 units that cover the anatomy of the ukulele, tuning the instrument, learning the 7 most used chords and preparing a selection that will be performed in a virtual concert at end of the course

**Motion**

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the Ukulele – 7th Grade Music curriculum as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The curriculum will be brought to the full board for review and approval.

### D. Art 1 Foundations

- Foundational class offered to all grades
- The curriculum offers students a little of everything: drawing, painting, sculpture/ceramics, collage and digital design.
- Art history and art critiques are also incorporated through the class

**Motion**

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the Art 1 Foundations curriculum as presented, all in favor,

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none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The curriculum will be brought to the full board for review and approval.

### E. Art 2 with Post University Dual Enrollment Option

- Builds on the foundational skills and concepts introduced in Art 1
- Students dive deeper into the skills learned and explore more difficult concepts
- The course can be taken as a dual enrollment course to earn 3 credits at Post University

**Motion**

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the Art 2 with Post University Dual Enrollment Option 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. New Course Proposal for Approval

### A. AP Cybersecurity

- Upon approval, this course will be added to the 2027-2028 Nonnewaug Program of Studies
- Offered as a full year course to grades 10-12
- Prerequisite is Algebra 2 – completed or concurrently enrolled
- The course has 5 units and is closely aligned with National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (N.I.C.E.)

**Motion**

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

### B. She Said: Women's Voices in Literature

- Upon approval, this course will be added to either the 2027-2028 or 2028-2029 Nonnewaug Program of Studies
- Would be offered on an alternating annual basis with the proposed Sports Literature course
- Offered as a full year course to grades 11 and 12
- Designed to strengthen students' reading for information skills through literature
- Modeled after Uconn's delivery of their first year writing programs

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**Motion**

A motion was made by Alice Jones and seconded by Jim Crocker to accept/approve the She Said: Women's Voices in Literature course as presented, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously. The course will be brought to the full board for review and approval.

### C. Sports Literature and Multimodal Composition

- Upon approval, this course will be added to either the 2027-2028 or 2028-2029 Nonnewaug Program of Studies
- Would be offered on an alternating annual basis with the proposed She Said course
- Offered as a full year course to grades 11 and 12
- Modeled after Uconn's delivery of their first year writing programs
- The course is a blend of non-fiction and fiction

**Motion**

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

## IV. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:13pm

*Respectfully Submitted,*



*Kimberly Effes*
*Board Clerk*
*Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Kimberly Effes, Board Clerk*
*Minutes created with assistance of Circleback AI"*

APPROVED