



Minutes
Curriculum & Professional Practices
Avon Board of Education
34 Simsbury, Avon, Connecticut 06001
Tuesday, May 30, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.

Attendance

Members Present: Lynn Katz, Thej Singh, Liz Sommerkorn

Member(s) Absent: Jackie Blea, Committee Chair

Administration Present: Dr. Bridget H. Carnemolla, Superintendent; Jess Giannini, Assistant Superintendent

Others Present: Deb Chute, Board Chair; Andrew Brochu, AHS Music Department; Jeffrey Sirois, AMS Music Department; Nate Strick and Carl Sauerbrunn, TBS Music Department; Christine Sardinkas, Board Recording Secretary

- I. Call to order
The meeting was called to order by Ms. Lynn Katz, at 5:30 pm.
- II. Approval of April 18, 2023 minutes-
Ms. Thej Singh moved to approve the minutes of April 18, 2023, Ms. Liz Sommerkorn seconded Motion passed 3-0-0
- III. Comments from the Public No comments from the Public
- IV. Old Business- N/A
- IV. New Business-
 - A. Course Proposal Recommendations
Mr. Giannini began by reviewing the way the curriculum is designed and the 3 stages of curriculum development.

Mr. Giannini stated that there was 1 new course proposal and one course proposal change. The new course proposal was ECE Introduction to Asian American Studies, which is one of the state requirements to have in a district's curriculum by school year 24-25.

The course change is to Biology, simply breaking down the 4 main units of the curriculum into 8 smaller units for flexibility in the management of the content. There is no change in the content, just in how the content is delivered(in 8 units instead of 4).

Ms. Thej Singh motioned to have the New Course/ Change Proposals moved to the full board for approval, Ms. Liz Sommerkorn seconded.
Motion passed 3-0-0

B. Primary Instructional Materials

Mr. Giannini started by showing the Board the old textbook that was being used by the Grade 6 Social Studies Team, which was copyrighted in 1998. The new Grade 6 Social Studies textbook has updated maps and information. There is also a digital version of the textbook that can /will be purchased for every student so they can refer to the text at home without carrying home a large textbook. The digital version of the textbook will be updated as needed.

Ms. Thej Singh motioned to have the new Grade 6 Social Studies Instructional Text book moved to the full board to be approved for the 30 day review, Ms. Liz Sommerkorn seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0

C. K-12 Performing Arts Curriculum-

Mr. Brochu, Mr. Sauerbrunn, Mr. Sirois and Mr. Strick, all teachers of the Music Departments in the Avon School District presented the stage 1 curriculum for K-12 Performing Arts. The main focus stems from 4 universal knowledge and skill components: Creating, Performing, Responding and Connecting. It was noted that music is a part of the school day curriculum for grades K-6 and becomes electives from grade 7-12 with some courses happening during the school day and some parts of the music program happening outside school hours. All courses at the high school are aligned with the Portrait of a Graduate. A Board Member asked how many AMS and AHS students choose a music class as an elective, and that was something that Dr. Carnemolla and Mr. Giannini would have to get from PowerSchool and get back to them with the numbers. Another Board member asked about the curriculum fitting Special Education students and the resounding answer was that each class and each teacher is able to differentiate the lesson to accommodate all students.

Ms. Liz Sommerkorn moved to have the K-12 Performing Arts curriculum brought to the full board for approval, Ms. Thej Singh seconded the motion Motion passed 3-0-0

Before the meeting adjourned, Ms. Chute, Board Chair, expressed her gratitude for the phenomenal job that the music department is doing and the incredible environment they have created for our students.

VI. Adjournment

Ms. Thej Singh motioned to adjourn meeting at 6:25 p.m., Ms. Liz Sommerkorn seconded motion passed 3-0-0

Minutes prepared by Christine Sardinkas, Recording Secretary

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jackie Blea, C&PP Committee Chair

Minutes respectfully received by Jeffrey S. Fleischman, Board Secretary

Minutes are approved at the next Curriculum and Professional Practices Committee meeting, and any corrections to the minutes, if needed, will be made at that time.