

Newtown Board of Education
Newtown, Connecticut
Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee

Minutes from the Board of Education Subcommittee meeting held on Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

J. Larkin J. Vouros K. Lowell A. Uberti
D. Ramsey F. Georgina K. Longobucco

J. Vouros called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

J. Vouros moved to approve the minutes from the 12/13/22 meeting.

D. Ramsey seconded the motion.

Public Participation: None

Presentation of IPES – F. Georgina, K. Longobucco

Fawn Georgina presented the freshman science course – Integrated Physical Earth and Space Science. NGSS standards were adopted in 2015, by the state of Connecticut. Therefore the IPES curriculum had to be updated to align with the new standards which were significantly different from the prior standards. This work started several years ago and after many disruptions was finally completed in June of 2022.

The Units are as follows:

- Labs and skills density
- Big Bang and the Electromagnetic Spectrum
- Formation and Life Cycle of Stars
- Motion of the Solar System
- Formation and History of the Earth
- Climate Change (Historical and Modern)
- Energy Resources Integrated Physical and Earth Science

Presentation of Honors Physics – K. Lowell, K. Longobucco

Kim Lowell provided an overview of Honors Physics. Honors Physics is a course for juniors and seniors, and for some advanced sophomores. Melissa Torrence helped with the writing of the curriculum that emphasizes the science and engineering practices. Physics requires a great deal of math. Most students should have already taken Geometry or are taking it concurrently.

The Units are as follows:

- Kinematics
- Forces
- Momentum and Energy
- Rotational Motion
- Electric and Magnetic Phenomena
- Waves

Elementary Reading Program Update – A. Uberti

Anne Uberti presented an update to the reading program. She explained that she and Kara DiBartolo, Director of Teaching and Learning, will be presenting a recommendation to the Board on Tuesday, January 17, 2023. The recommendation will include changes that the Core Review Team arrived at since the December 8, 2022 presentation. The recommendation will be to implement EL Education/Imagine Learning

for a one year trial period in grades K through 4 as a one year trial. Specifically, the presentation will provide a rationale for implementing EL Education/Imagine Learning Module Lesson Block and Foundations and Heggerty in Kindergarten through Grade 2. In Grades 3 and 4, the recommendation will be to implement EL Education/Imagine Learning Module Lesson Block as well as their ALL (Alternative Language and Literacy) Block. This would allow teachers to receive appropriate training and allow for a true evaluation of the program over the course of the year. The presentation to the Board of Education will provide a complete explanation and rationale for why the Core Review Team arrived at this decision and for making this recommendation.

There were several questions asked by the subcommittee members that Ms. Uberti answered. She stated that answers to all of the questions that were asked would be included in the 1.17.20 presentation to the Board of Education.

Assistant Superintendent Update – A. Uberti

Anne Uberti presented the C & I calendar meeting dates for the rest of the school year.

Public Participation: None

J. Vouros adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

D. Ramsey seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Norling

THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES AND ARE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE.