

# Cheshire Public Schools



## **Board of Education Curriculum Committee (Virtual)**

**Monday, February 8, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.**

### **Minutes**

**Committee Members Present:** Faith Ham (Chair), Anne Harrigan, Tony Perugini

**Cheshire Public Schools Staff Present:** Marlene Silano, Assistant Superintendent; Kevin Hanlon, K-8 Curriculum Coordinator; Dr. Mary Gadd, Principal - Cheshire High School; Dr. Maureen Reed, Assistant Principal - Cheshire High School; Sean McKeown, Career and Technical Education Department Chair

**Community Members Present:** None

#### **1. Public Comment**

- a. An email correspondence from Mr. John Bestor (Cheshire resident) was read out loud by Curriculum Sub-Committee Chair, Faith Ham. The correspondence regarded Mr. Bestor's request for the board to consider a non-binding board of education vote for Cheshire students not to participate in the state Smarter Balanced Assessment.

#### **2. [Review Minutes of January 11, 2021 Meeting](#)**

- a. Ms. Harrigan made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 11, 2021 Board of Education Curriculum Committee meeting. Mr. Perugini seconded the motion. Ms. Ham, Ms. Harrigan, and Mr. Perugini voted to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2021 meeting. The motion passed.

#### **3. Informational Items**

- a. Cheshire Curriculum Council (CCC) EL Executive Summary Presentation  
Mr. Kevin Hanlon, K-8 Curriculum Coordinator, shared a summary of the five year English Learners Program Evaluation presentation and report to the Cheshire Curriculum Council from November, 2020. Key items in the report included reflections on the impact of the previous CCC goals on improved EL student performance, and future goals to further refine individual plans for students, improve social-emotional supports and family communication, and continued professional development for teachers.
- b. Perkins Supplemental Grant Update

Mr. Sean McKeown , Career and Technical Education department chair gave an update on the supplemental Perkins Grant. Highlights of the update include purchasing a Trak Knee Mill and Tormach Milling Machines, teacher installation of the machines, and plans for training/consulting. Additionally, Mr. McKeown shared continued collaboration with Naugatuck Valley Committee College dual enrollment courses and manufacturing certificates.

**c. PSAT Results**

Dr. Mary Gadd, Principal - Cheshire High School, provided an overview of the ninth, tenth, and eleventh grade PSAT results from the fall of 2020. The overview included student performance trends from the last few years of the assessment administration including performance relative to benchmark scores, growth from year to year, and comparison of growth to District Reference Group (DRG) average growth.

**d. Social Emotional Learning Update**

Marlene Silano , Assistant Superintendent, gave an update on Social Emotional Learning focusing on the current and upcoming district work on equity. The presentation highlighted the connection between social emotional learning; Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional (CASEL) Standards; and equity. Additionally, the presentation shared the district's equity training and work with the State Education Resource Center (SERC), collaboration efforts with Meriden Public Schools, efforts to recruit and hire diverse candidates, work to increase diverse perspectives in literature, and sharing of next steps in the district equity work.

**4. Adjourn**

- a.** Ms. Harrigan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Perugini seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (Ms. Ham, Ms. Harrigan, and Mr. Perugini). The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kevin J. Hanlon*

Kevin J. Hanlon  
K-8 Curriculum Coordinator