

**CAPE Subcommittee Minutes  
February 27, 2018**

Present: BOE members: Rosa Fernandes, Joy Greenstein, and Jennifer Laden; Maureen Ruby, Assistant Superintendent; Debbie Farias, Director of Instruction; Deane Renda, WMS Principal; Jason Milde, WMS Social Studies teacher, Jessica Garthwait, WMS Social Studies teacher; Aggie Burns, WMS Curriculum Specialist

The meeting was called to order at 5:50 p.m. by Maureen Ruby. The BOE members voted on the CAPE subcommittee chair. Rosa Fernandes nominated Jennifer Laden. Jennifer was unanimously elected as Chair.

**1. WMS Social Studies Curriculum**

Jessica Garthwait and Jason Milde, Social Studies Team Co-Leaders gave a presentation of the proposed sequence of study changes for the grade 5 through 8 Social Studies curriculum. The changes proposed were to ensure alignment with CT Social Studies Framework, as well as vertical alignment with the elementary and high school Social Studies curricula. A brief history of social studies instruction provided context for the presentation with Principal Deane Renda providing additional details. Sample instructional lessons/projects were presented. Following questions and answers and discussion, the BOE members voted unanimously to support the proposed scope and sequence and to present their recommendation to the full BOE.

**2. Discussion of Elementary Team Teaching pilot proposal**

Dr. Ruby provided background and information in support of a pilot for Team Teaching in the elementary grades. This would involve teaming two elementary teachers to serve as a team of a "Humanities" and "STEM" teacher supporting two classes of students. One teacher would teach Reading/ELA and Social Studies to two sections/classes of a grade level and the partner teacher would teach Science and Mathematics to the same two sections/classes. Both teachers would teach writing, and interdisciplinary subject. The intent is to develop expertise in our faculty, increase efficiency and effectiveness of professional learning opportunities, be more fiscally responsible, and better serve the differentiated needs of our students. This model is successfully implemented in other districts. The committee was supportive of the concept of implementing a pilot.

**3. Update on Next Generation Accountability Report**

Dr. Ruby provided a Power Point document on the Next Generation Accountability Report and briefly discussed how the state reviews and holds districts accountable in accordance with state and federal requirements. This information was presented to the BOE over the past three years as it was "rolled out" by the state and the new state assessments and procedures for reporting on subgroups were implemented. Data that were previously presented at the regularly scheduled BOE meetings in 2015, 2016, and 2017 were reviewed.

**4. Update on Emotional Intelligence work**

Dr. Ruby provided an update on the district work with Social Emotional Learning and The Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. The training of adults at WMS is ongoing. Dr. Sipala has provided training on the development of the “Charter” – a RULER anchor tool - at CES, HHES, and to the Administrative Council. Deane Renda and Maureen Ruby attended the EI Conference at Yale on 2/27/18. The work will continue to be implemented within the district.

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Ruby