

CAPE Minutes
Tuesday, December 13, 2016
Town School Office

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m.

Present: Colette Sturm (BOE), Harry Shaker (BOE), Marc Balanda (Principal, BHS), Deane Renda (Principal, WMS), Maureen Ruby (Assistant Superintendent)

1. Welcome

2. Grade 5 Program

Discussion of proposed elementary program-like grade five program.

3. Social Studies Curriculum Planning

Discussion regarding balance of World Language and Social Studies curriculum instructional time. New State Social Studies framework and standards require re-alignment of instructional time. Content literacy (reading and writing) and critical thinking in Social Studies require more than 50% time for instruction.

4. BHS Program of Studies 2017-18

Mr. Balanda presented the BHS Program of Studies. He discussed new legislation regarding program performance standards (removed).

Incoming Class of 2021- state has increased credit requirements, but we have sufficient credits already. Requirements now include an additional credit in Career and Life Skill Electives. Mr. Balanda is proposing .5 credit of Personal Finance and .5 of another elective.

As of 2021, two credits of World Language are required.

Mr. Balanda is recommending .5 credit of community service (50 hours) as a graduation requirement.

A one credit Senior Demonstration project will be required in 2021. Mr. Balanda is reviewing what neighboring districts are doing with their “capstone”/Senior Demonstration project.

Revisions addressed included: Class Rank (in October, students could have unofficial class rank or deciles); Point Value of Grading System (Adding the ECE weighting equal to Advanced Placement); College Credit Course Guidelines (Adding requirement of earning a C or better in AP course to maintain AP weighting); and Enrollment in Class Without Recommendation (regarding specific language to the override process).

Mr. Balanda discussed the *policy implication* with regard to online courses. Specific language is needed regarding the number of online credits accepted and from which types of programs the credits will be accepted.

Western Connecticut weighting will be excluded from GPA.

Mr. Balanda is recommending deletion of the terms: *Cooperative Work Experience* and *School to Career*.

Course name changes are recommended for the following Special Services courses: English Tutorial I and II to Critical Literacy Skills I and II; Math Tutorial I and II to Applied Math I and II; and Social Studies Applied to Applied Social Studies.

Additional course name changes in Career and Technical Education (Business) include: Computer Applications to Computer Information Applications; Marketing to Marketing and Business Fundamentals; Economics to Business Economics.

New Course Proposal
Career and Technical Education:
Personal Finance

Name Changes:
Skills 21 to Digital Student
Architecture and Design to Architecture and Design I

New Course Proposal:
Architecture and Design II
Introduction to Differential Equations (offered in spring/pair Multivariate Calculus)

Delete:
English: SAT Prep
Math: SAT Prep
English: Public Speaking

Revision:
Statistics II (addition of opportunity for WSCU credit)

The Course of Studies will have a key with symbol to indicate the level of the courses.

5. Enrichment Pilot Grade 6
Dream-Design-Do Curriculum presented as a Grade 6 Pilot

6. K-2 World Language
Efforts will focus on Grade 3-12 World Language. Plans to design credit bearing middle school Spanish courses discussed.

Propose Spanish as a specials rotation in grade 5; two 25 minute push-ins in grade 6.

K-2 World Language Search has not yet yielded a teacher, so the search will be suspended for this year.

Discontinue K-2 World Language from instructional program.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Maureen Ruby
Assistant Superintendent