

West Islip School District

Education Committee

2017-2018

Minutes

March 8, 2018

7:15 p.m.

District Office ~ Board Conference Room

Meeting began 7:15 p.m.

Members present: Steve Gellar, Kevin O'Connor, Bernadette Burns, Anne Rullan
Others present: Paul Michaluk

Special Education Program

The Education Committee reviewed a proposal for moving the location of some of our special education programs. The changes would provide an opportunity for integrated co-teaching model in north and south side elementary buildings, a natural feed to students' home middle school, and equity in the administration of the programs. The plan would be transitioned into effect to allow all current students to remain in their buildings.

5th grade team teaching

Elementary Principals and Dr. Rullan are exploring the concept of team teaching and departmentalization in grade 5. This has been an organic exploration based upon the suggestions from the teachers themselves. All teachers would remain ELA teachers and subjects that would allow teachers to become experts would possibly include math, science, health and social studies. A model is being developed to determine the feasibility of such a program.

Academy Survey results

West Islip School District has been exploring the idea of offering a STEM Academy at the high school where students could delve more deeply into areas of interest in math, science, computer science, and engineering. An advisory committee was formed and realizing the potential for multiple academies, created a survey tool for 8th and 11th graders to solicit input from our students. The results were enlightening.

Meeting adjourned: 7:40 p.m.