

Curriculum Committee Agenda
Tolland, Connecticut Board of Education
Thursday, September 3, 2020
3:30 PM

Meeting will be conducted via Zoom

Committee Members Present: Kate Howard-Bender, Jacob Marie, Christina Plourd

Also Attending: Dr. Walt Willett

Visitors: none

<p>Norms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Start and End on time● Put cell phones on vibrate; only take crisis calls; leave the room to talk on the phone● Use iPads and laptops only for the work of the meeting;● Limit side conversations	<p>Agreements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Be impeccable with your word● Don't take anything personally● Don't make assumptions - ask for clarification if needed● Always give your best effort to the work of the team
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Meeting Began at 3:37 PM

1. Review Norms & Agreements
2. Review of Previous Meeting
 - Verifying plans for Curriculum Supervisors to attend
 - Superintendent to talk to Leadership to schedule ELA for October (non-goal-setting meeting)
 - LATER MODIFIED TO MOVE TO NOVEMBER BASED ON INCREASED INTEREST IN SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Efforts at TPS
3. [UbD](#) (TABLED for October meeting)
 - [Links](#)
4. (Unanimous Agreement to address this topic first): Update for Curricular Implications due to CoVID
 - MOST PROFOUNDLY IMPACTED
 - A: First 8 weeks
 - State BOE does not want school districts to do any heavy assessments; want schools to do progress monitoring (tend to be shorter and less intense)
 - Concentration should be on social-emotional status
 - State BOE has not indicated that there will be a move away from SBAC
 - IAB's = Interim Assessment Block - State is allowing the students to take these at home without special access (not computer-adaptive) - it's a one-shot deal; IAB's relate to (inform / prepare for) SBAC's; IAB's have to be used incrementally
 - a. Results to the IAB's in previous administrations of the test indicate that the students did not understand the test (not necessarily that they didn't understand the content)

- COMMENTARY Questions from BOE:
 - a. KHB: Distressing that the State has not yet
 - b. JM: How will this year fit in data-wise with the other years?
 - i. “45%” of teacher eval = does NOT have to be based on testing data this year (or last year)
 - ii. IAB information can give teachers an indication of progress / content mastery
 - iii. Focus on SEL (Social Emotional Learning)
 - c. JM: Are there certain subject areas that are having a hard time transition?
 - i. Music / Unified Arts / Hands-On Learning
 - ii. Partial In-Person gives a couple of days
 - d. CP: What does the IAB stand for? (Interim Assessment Block)
- B: Universal assessments = different cohorts with testing / how to rework the Unit Assessments for multiple versions (to really get an idea of what kids have learned);
 - Time to learn the new tools to modify assessments for multiple groups of learners
 - Grading & Assessing = still going to be GPA-based (not like during March-June 2020)
 - KHB: Question about Assessments and them being project-based & based in UbD - multiple groups of learners
- Hard Curriculum Changes
 - US History (African-American & Latinx History) - need to make curricular changes asap
 - a. How have the groups with recent graduates affected this?
 - b. JM: When does this have to be rolled out?
 - i. Two years (2023 graduates); many districts are including this on the Portrait of the Graduate
 - ii. Want to have it ready over the next two years
 - c. JM: Does the law specifically say what has to be covered in the class? [Link](#) to Class
 - d. CP: Is there any way to implement the class sooner?
 - i. We need to do this correctly, and we need to help Tolland Public Schools grow along Cultural Sensitivity lines / need outside expertise
 - Math Pilot Programs- these will inform how curriculum will go forward; this will be done within the next few months
 - a. KHB: Which grades will be piloting?
 - i. Middle School primarily
 - b. CP: Suggested that we look at the math curriculum first
 - c. CP: Would the teachers working on the pilots be willing to come to the meeting to talk to us about it?
 - i. Dr. W. would be willing to get that lined up for us
 - ii. We have to wait until the math pilots are actuated with the teachers (somewhere after the holidays, we will have some data and information to discuss)
 - ELA - constant revision of lists of literature to ensure cultural sensitivity

- Science - kind of on the backburner, but continuing to adapt to NGSS
 - May need to do some rewriting of curriculum to accommodate remote situation, e.g. P.E. (may need some time to do this)
 - Always ongoing work with CRE (Culturally Responsive Education) at each building; this dovetails with the curriculum; Big Question: Are all the voices represented?
 - a. “Common Ground” Group / Club - to get kids to work together / open dialogue
 - Curricular Changes
 - SEL presentation to the Board
 - a. RULER, et al
 - b. Add this to the agenda with the Board
5. Preparation for next meeting (determined by consensus at the meeting)
- UbD Nuts and Bolts for next time (presentation, Q&A)
 - Social Emotional Learning - request to have a presentation to the Board - Dr. Willett to discuss with Board Leadership for a time in October

4:35 JM moved to end the meeting; CP seconded; unanimously approved