

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Curriculum Committee
of the
Trumbull Board of Education

Regular Meeting

Long Hill Administration Building Conference Room
Thursday, August 17, 2017 – 8:15 a.m.

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order/Introduction – The meeting was called to order by Ms. Petitti at 8:15 a.m.

Members present

M. Petitti, chair
L. Timpanelli
M. Ward
J. Budd, Ph.D., ex officio

Other

F. Mallozzi, Ed.D., STEM Coordinator, K-8
K. Boken, Trumbull High School science teacher
M. Curry, Trumbull High School science teacher
T. Buckingham, English Language Arts Program Leader, K-5
L. Ryan, English Language Arts Team Leader, Hillcrest Middle School
P. Sullivan, Madison Middle School Principal
S. Thomas, Hillcrest Middle School Principal

- II. Public Comment – There was no Public Comment.
- III. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting 8/3/2017 – Mr. Ward moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Timpanelli seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously agreed to.
- IV. New Business
- a. Science
 - i. Kindergarten Science Curriculum Guide
Dr. Budd noted that this curriculum guide comes after the 2016-17 year of implementation of the Kindergarten Science Draft for Pilot curriculum guide. Dr. Mallozzi highlighted the needs for fidelity of implementation, consistency across schools, and common assessments. Mr. Ward

supported the purchase of materials for the program, and Ms. Petitti noted the positive parent feedback she had heard about the Kindergarten Science program. Mr. Ward moved to bring the curriculum guide to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for August 22, 2017, and Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

At this point, grade 1 teachers Elaine Farr (Tashua), Lauren Popoli (Booth Hill), Diana Ruggiero (Middlebrook), Samantha Stebbins (Jane Ryan), and Millie Velazquez (Middlebrook) briefly joined the meeting to be thanked by the Curriculum Committee members for their work with Dr. Mallozzi in preparing professional development for August on the grade 1 science curriculum revisions.

ii. Grade 6 Integrated Earth Sciences Draft for Pilot 2017-18 Curriculum Guide

iii. Grade 9 Integrated Physical Science Draft for Pilot 2017-18 Curriculum Guide

Dr. Budd explained that these next two curriculum guides – Grades 6 & 9 – were in Draft for Pilot form for this upcoming 2017-18 school year and were the results of sustained curriculum development work this past summer.

Dr. Mallozzi explained how bundling at the Grade 6 level would allow for an Integrated Earth Sciences approach, and stressed the importance of K-12 vertical alignment in science. Ms. Timpanelli noted the importance of writing in the sciences, and Ms. Petitti echoed the value of cross-disciplinary connections. The Curriculum Committee members stressed the importance of administrative supervision of the implementation of the curriculum.

Dr. Budd shared the regrets of Mr. Edwards, Trumbull High School Science Department Chair, in being unable to attend today's meeting. Mr. Edwards provided feedback about the shift in content in grade 9 back to earth and space science. Mr. Curry and Mr. Boken explained the process by which Department members had divided up Next-Generation Science Standards across grade levels, and how standards would be taught at differentiated levels of rigor for students in Honors, ACP, & CP class sections. Dr. Budd noted that the necessary resources were technological rather than text-based, and that he would be ordering additional Chromebook carts to support the curricular necessities in this revised Grade 9 Integrated Physical Science course. He reminded the Committee that these Draft for Pilot 2017-18 Curriculum Guides would be developed further this year and next summer for full review by the Curriculum Committee and then the Board of Education prior to the 2018-19 school year.

b. Writing

- i. Grade 3 Writing Curriculum Guide
- ii. Grade 4 Writing Curriculum Guide
- iii. Grade 5 Writing Curriculum Guide

Ms. Buckingham explained to the Committee the “Year at a Glance” chart in each of these curriculum guides. In Grade 3, the recent Teachers College Summer Institute allowed teachers a basis by which to integrate research more fully into the course. In Grade 4, a new focus on immigration will support the informational writing unit, supported by teacher-librarians working with the teachers. In Grade 5, units on Informational Writing (based on The Revolutionary War) and Journalism support the recent professional development of the grades 3-5 teachers. Ms. Buckingham illustrated students’ 3-5 development via representative student work. Ms. Timpanelli, Ms. Petitti, and Mr. Ward commended the program for its impressive student work and for the positive engagement of so many teachers in curriculum development and professional development related to writing. Ms. Petitti moved to bring the curriculum guides to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for August 22, 2017, and Ms. Timpanelli seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

- iv. Grade 6 Integrated Language Arts Draft for Pilot 2017-18 Curriculum Guide

Ms. Ryan began by explaining the double-period structure to support Grade 6 Integrated Language Arts for the 2017-18 school year. An emphasis on more student-centered learning and responsibility, coupled with engaging activities, are anticipated to strengthen the teaching and learning process. Ms. Petitti, Ms. Timpanelli, and Mr. Ward supported those initiatives for all students in learning how to write. Dr. Budd reminded the Committee that this Draft for Pilot 2017-18 Curriculum Guide would be developed further this year and next summer for full review by the Curriculum Committee and then the Board of Education prior to the 2018-19 school year.

- c. English 9-10 New Course Text Proposals

- i. *Home of the Brave* (Core: English 9-10)
- ii. *Scorpions* (Core: English 9-10)

Dr. Budd explained that these two texts would support the special needs of the students in the new Special Education course English 9-10. Mr. Ward moved to bring the new course text proposals to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for August 22, 2017, and Ms. Timpanelli seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

- d. Report, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessments

Dr. Budd reminded Committee members that the next meeting of the Committee would be Thursday, September 7, at 8:15 a.m. in the Trumbull High School Main Office Conference Room.

Mr. Ward moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 a.m.; Ms. Timpanelli seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.