

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT

Curriculum Committee  
of the  
Trumbull Board of Education

Regular Meeting

Trumbull High School Main Office Conference Room  
Thursday, March 22, 2018 – ~~8:15 a.m.~~ (postponed to 10:30 a.m. due to District delayed opening)

MINUTES

I. Call to Order/Introduction – The meeting was called to order by Ms. Petitti at 10:33 a.m.

Members present

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

Other

A. Gomes, English teacher, Trumbull High School  
S. Jalowiec, literacy consultant, Trumbull High School  
J. McCaffrey, English teacher, Trumbull High School  
B. Beaman, Coordinator of Special Education, Grade 9 – Post High School  
M. Landin, special education teacher, Trumbull High School  
M. Seperack, special education teacher, Trumbull High School  
M. Guarino, Principal, Trumbull High School  
E. Spark, B-House Principal, Trumbull High School

II. Public Comment – There was no Public Comment.

III. Approval/Minutes – Regular Meeting 2/22/2018 – Mr. Ward moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Timpanelli seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

IV. New Business

- f. New Course Text Proposal: *Flying Lessons & Other Stories* (Core: English 9-10)  
Dr. Budd noted that Ms. Seperack and Mr. Landin would use this proposed text as the final text of the year in English 9-10. Mr. Landin spoke of the award-winning stories in the collection dealing with a variety of themes on the students' instructional level; Ms. Seperack explained the importance of diversity to the collection. Ms. Timpanelli asked about the writing that would accompany the

reading of the text; Mr. Landin explained text-to-self and text-to-text connections, and Ms. Seperack cited examples of writing to learn. Ms. Beaman clarified demographics of the students enrolled in the course. Ms. Timpanelli moved to bring the new course text proposal to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for March 27, 2018, and Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

a. English 9 Curriculum Guide

Ms. Gomes, Ms. Jalowiec, and Mr. McCaffrey presented this revised curriculum guide, including its integration of skills-based work supported by key texts. They explained the inclusion of rigorous independent reading into the curriculum, and the balance between canonical and non-canonical texts. Additionally, they discussed writing as it develops over the course of the year in English 9. Ms. Timpanelli moved to bring the curriculum guide to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for March 27, 2018, and Mr. Ward seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

d. New Course Text Proposal: *Between Shades of Gray* (Supplemental: English 9)

Mr. McCaffrey discussed the value of this proposed text in terms of its strong female protagonist who perseveres through difficult life events and struggle. The text will be used later in the grade 9 year as a choice text within the English 9 context. Ms. Timpanelli moved to bring the new course text proposal to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for March 27, 2018, and Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

c. New Course Text Proposal: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* (Supplemental: English 9)

Ms. Gomes discussed this text in terms of its compelling voice, style, and structure, as well as its integration in grade 9 curricula in area Districts. The text will be used later in the grade 9 year as a choice text within the English 9 context. Ms. Timpanelli moved to bring the new course text proposal to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for March 27, 2018, and Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

e. New Course Text Proposal: *Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock's Central High* (Supplemental: English 9)

Ms. Gomes discussed this memoir in relation to the thematic struggle through perseverance, as well as its integration in grade 9 curricula in area Districts. The text will be used later in the grade 9 year as a choice text within the English 9 context. Ms. Timpanelli moved to bring the new course text proposal to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for March 27, 2018, and Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

b. Literacy Workshop I Curriculum Guide

Ms. Jalowiec explained the structure of Literacy Workshop I as well as its key content elements to support grade 9 English students. Ms. Timpanelli moved to

bring the curriculum guide to the Board of Education for approval at its meeting scheduled for March 27, 2018, and Ms. Petitti seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Ward moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m.; Ms. Timpanelli seconded. The motion was unanimously agreed to.