

Winchester Board Education

Type of Meeting: Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2020, 6:30 PM

Location: Online: Location: Virtual Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7966671341?pwd=OGh4c1haZkkvcGJ2UHVtZXo4M0VDbz09>

Phone Number: 929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 796 667 1341 Password: 12345

Facilitator: Nora MocarSKI

Committee Members: Kristin Peterson, Alexandra Propfe, Doug Pfenninger, and Tara Sundie

Invitees: Melony Brady-Shanley, Seamus Cullinan, Barbara Silverio, Rosanne Field, and Richard Dutton

Quorum: 4

Call to Order at 6:30 pm

Roll Call - Present: Nora MocarSKI, Kristin Peterson, Alexandra Propfe, Doug Pfenninger, and Tara Sundie, Richard Dutton

Invitees: Melony Brady-Shanley, Nancy O'Dea-Wyrick, Seamus Cullinan, Barbara Silverio

#### Agenda Review

- a) Review the Curriculum Committee Agenda – April 28, 2020

None.

#### IV. Approval of Minutes

- a) Minutes of Curriculum Committee Minutes – February 25, 2020

**MOTION** to approve the Curriculum Committee Minutes from February 25, 2020

First, D. Pfenninger, Second: K. Peterson → U.

#### V. New Business

- a) Assessment and results - What is the current impact on learning? How will we compare student results?

- Currently, we are not formally assessing students with standardized measures to be able to fully compare Spring 2019 performance to Spring 2020 performance. While teachers are assessing students, we are not engaged in formalized standardized testing. We won't be able to evaluate students with formal standardized measures until we return to school full-time.
- We will be able to identify losses or gains in the Fall when we return.
- Meanwhile, the turnout rate for lessons online are higher the older the student. Lessons can be recorded for students, not in attendance.
- The curriculum is moving ahead but at a slower rate. We are prioritizing standards, but given the extraordinary situation, not all elements of the curriculum will be covered given the pace.
- On the question of social-emotional health, it was reported that some students are Zooming each other and establishing virtual play dates on their own
- It was reported that the Pass/Fail option decided by The Gilbert School is

having a negative impact upon the engagement levels of Special Education students enrolled at the school.

b) Staff Evaluation - The impact of at-home, online learning due to COVID on SLO's, IAGD's, Evaluation?

- Per the MOU, teacher evaluation is on hold. This includes SLOs, goals, and evaluations.
- There is a waiver issued from the State Department of CT regarding tenure. If a teacher wasn't going to be awarded tenure at the end of this current year, then the district could go ahead and deny tenure by June 30th so long as the process was underway before school closure. If the process was not started prior to closure, the district has up to January 1st, 2021 to make a decision to deny tenure.
- To note, the Winchester Faculty is meeting, holding conferences, getting feedback, giving feedback to each other
- Staff members are giving their 100% through this crisis. Superintendent Brady-Shanley is pleased with the work teachers are doing. Principal Silverio echos the same. Teachers are supporting teachers, particularly in technology tools to help students learn.
- Joe Cifaldi has been phenomenal. Hard copies of school work is also available for families who wish to work with paper copies.
- Protocol of doing business is set up between teachers and administration with regards to email to reduce volume. The principals are collaborating on messages to staff that includes shared resources.
- Team leaders are meeting weekly and also meeting with principals.
- Coaches are doing a phenomenal job as well.
- Paraprofessionals are checking in with students as needed who get information to the case manager.
- Kudos to teachers who have been so responsive in creating agendas, and in communication, willing to make modifications and changes.

c) Student report - Responsiveness, Work Completion, Participation

- See above.

d) What learning will not be covered by June? How many units will not be addressed?

- See above.
- We are unable to state where students will be in their curricula in June at this time.

e) New student numbers from Saint Anthony's

- We anticipate to receive nine (9) students from Saint Anthony's closing.
- We will be able to handle this increase in student enrollment.
- Registration materials are starting to come back from families. Packets are due May 8, 2020.

f) Summer School - ESY Planning

- Extended School Year (ESY) is for students with special services only. Intervention can also be available.
- Further discussion is needed on this issue once the governor makes his announcement about whether or not to open schools after May 20th. Any decision at this time is premature.

- Rationale: ESY online may not be the best way to go forward when Special Education students are most challenged. Instead, the question was raised whether we should wait and invest in after school tutoring, late bussing, etc., instead. Again, any decision on this is premature.

g) Food Service Program with Baylor University

- The Baylor Food Service Program is a RURAL food program for districts that are on the Free and Reduced Lunch program at 100%. Therefore, this is only open to Torrington and Winchester in the State of Connecticut. Our application has been submitted to Baylor, and we are waiting to hear the results.
- The program will provide weekly UPS deliveries of food to families that qualify. These families will have to meet all federal guidelines. Food includes fruit, vegetables, canned goods for the home. This is funded by the nonprofit, “Meals to You.” Baylor came to Winchester via EdAdvance.
- Currently, the Winchester Public Schools is providing 275-300 meals a day for the community at Pearson. One meal is considered lunch and a bagged breakfast for the next day.

h) Transition Planning for 6th to TGS? What will the process be?

- Superintendent Brady-Shanley and Principal Silverio met with Principal Sue Sojka to discuss the transition of students from 6th to 7th grade. It included topics such as which students, their data transfer, and include specific tasks, timelines, and who is responsible. An email request went to families to let us know if they are sending their child to Gilbert. So far, 30 of 92 families have responded. This process includes permission to send records to Gilbert.
- A meeting is scheduled for May 12th on Special Education and 504 transitions. There are 22 Special Education students and 3 504 students (Total: 25 of 92 students).
- Transition meetings with parents may look different this year in light of COVID. “End of Year” PPTs may have to be delayed until the first or second week back in the 2020-2021 school year.
- We have also identified gifted and talented students to work with Gilbert to ensure their programming is appropriate.
- We have also identified Tier 3 students as well.
- There may be a video tour of The Gilbert School.
- We anticipate tightening this up in the middle or last week in May 2020.

VI. Adjournment

**MOTION** to adjourn at 7:17 p. M.

First: A. Propfe, Second: T. Sundie.--> U.