

**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
EAST HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Monday
October 27, 2008**

A meeting of the East Hartford Board of Education Curriculum Committee was held on Monday, October 27, 2008 in the third floor conference room at the Board of Education, 1110 Main Street, East Hartford, CT 06108.

PRESENT Hilde Mayranen-O'Brien, Chair

ALSO PRESENT Dorese Roberts, Committee Member
Marcus C. Oladell IV, Committee Member
Robert Damaschi, Board Member
Ram Aberaturia, Board Member
Debbie Kaprove, Assistant Superintendent
Marcia Huddy, Secondary Curriculum Supervisor
Lesley Morgan Thompson, Elementary Curriculum Supervisor
Michelle Hacker, CTE Department Head
Monica Giglio, English Department Head
John Fote, Summer Connections Program Director

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Ms. Mayranen-O'Brien.

Motion:

By Ms. Mayranen-O'Brien

To approve the minutes of the June 20, 2008 Curriculum Committee Meeting

Seconded by Mr. Oladell

Correspondence: None

Ms. Kaprove gave a report on the curriculum work that was done last summer. Extensive work was done by departments over the summer on standards, essential questions, application resources, assessment of student progress, etc. This work will be continued and shared with staff during professional development days and early release times.

There was a discussion about the fine arts portion of the report. There are some schedule constraints at the middle school which may interfere with needed flexibility to meet student needs for intervention. Staff is going to attend a conference on scheduling which will give them ideas on how to make schedules more flexible. Their goal is to provide extra assistance to students without depriving students of their music, social studies or other courses. Ms. Kaprove commended Mr. Kopcha for his work in the fine arts department on aligning their curriculum with reading and math curriculum and thematically connecting their work to the general classroom.

There was also a discussion on the social studies curriculum. Ms. Kaprove reported that the state has not completed their frameworks but we do have a curriculum draft that will be updated when their framework is completed. Our draft is based on the previous state and federal standards.

Michelle Hacker presented a course proposal, Project Lead the Way: Intro to Engineering Design. This course is the second part of a five part engineering course. This year there are approximately 20 students enrolled in Level One. Level Two will begin in the 2009/2010 school year. The Rotary Club has provided funding for Project Lead the Way and the Carl Perkins grant will cover any other costs associated with the course. The instructor has gone to intensive training over the summer for this program. Additional staff may be necessary in years three and four.

Motion: by Dorese Roberts

To present to full board the Project Lead the Way: Intro to Engineering Design

Seconded by Marcus Oladell IV.

Motion unanimously approved.

Monica Giglio presented a course, A/P English: Language and Composition. This course will provide students with two writing advanced placement nonfiction integrated American studies. No additional staff is necessary to add this class. The teacher for this course has already attended training this past summer. This course can replace college freshman writing courses. The students will be encouraged to take the A/P exam.

Motion: by Marcus Oladell IV

To present to full board the A/P English Language and Composition Course

Seconded by Dorese Roberts.

Motion unanimously approved.

Ms. Giglio also presented a new course proposal, Senior English or English IV. Students now have the option of taking English I, English II, English III and then either British World Literature or various elective courses. This course will focus on world literature and non fiction. The purchase of a world literature anthology would be an asset to this course. No additional staff will be necessary to add this course.

Motion: by Marcus Oladell IV

To present to full board the Senior English, English IV Course

Seconded by Dorese Roberts.

Motion unanimously approved.

John Fote gave a summary of the final report on Summer Connections, the elementary summer school program. The program focused on literacy and was attended by students from grades K-3. The staff consisted of 25 teachers and 25 paraprofessionals and tutors. The teacher/student ratio was approximately 18-2. The students were chosen based on their DRA scores. Some students were at risk of not moving on to the next grade level. 433 students were enrolled at an 85% attendance rate. Staff phoned parents each day when students were absent and letters were sent home. Progress reports went out twice in the four week period focusing on both the students' strengths and areas of concern. A discussion followed on the ability to track students after they have attended summer school and in the years to come. The use of the ESchool Plus program will make that possible in the near future.

Dorese Roberts moved to adjourn meeting
Seconded by Marcus Oladell
Motion Unanimously Approved
Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Judy Burnham