



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION - CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

Curriculum Committee Meeting AT Tuesday, October 28, 2014

Bloomfield Board of Education 1133 Blue Hills Avenue Board Room, 1133 Blue Hills Avenue ,
Bloomfield, CT 06002

1. Call to Order
2. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Minutes - Curriculum Committee Meeting - March 25, 2014 2
M. Walters
 - B. Approval of Minutes - Curriculum Committee Meeting - September 23, 2014 3
M. Walters
3. New Business
 - A. Discussion about Successes, Challenges and Opportunities for Bloomfield Public
Schools: Curriculum Implications
E. Stoltz and J. Costa
4. Adjournment

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS – CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, March 25, 2014, 6:00 p.m.
Bloomfield Board of Education
1133 Blue Hills Avenue
Board Room

ATTENDANCE: M.R. Walters, Chair Present
H. Frydman Present
R. Ike Absent

ALSO PRESENT: D. Harris M. Williams L. Mara
J. Thompson J. Jacoby E. Stoltz B. Silver
S. McCann S. Simpson S. Simpson E. Pierce

1. CALL TO ORDER

M. R. Walters called the meeting to order at 6:32. The roll was called and a quorum was present.

M.R Walters noted the following:

- The discussion was for informational purposes and no voting would take place.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2. 1. Review of Curriculum Committee Minutes – January 28, 2014

A motion was made by H. Frydman and seconded by M. R. Walters to approve the minutes of January 28, 2014. The motion passed unanimously.

3. NEW BUSINESS

3. A. Common Core State Standards: Points to Note on the Debate in our State

E. Stoltz shared the Common Core PowerPoint, “Why We Support the State Adoption of the Common Core Standards”. Some of the highlighted points were the practices of the Common Core State Standards in ELA (English Language Arts), comparison of student learning through standardized test scores and student progress. E. Stoltz also reviewed claims, counter claims and the evidence of the Common Core State Standards.

There was discussion among the board members regarding anxieties that some districts are experiencing concerning the impact for students taking the Common Core State Standards. It was agreed that some of the uneasiness is emotionally driven. It was also noted that the Governor’s Task Force is in full support of the Common Core State Standards; but pleased of the slowdown to connect it to the Teacher Evaluations.

4. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:04 p.m., a motion was made by H. Frydman and seconded by M. Walters to adjourn.
The motion passed unanimously.

M. R. Walters, Chair



BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS –CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 23, 6:30 p.m.
Bloomfield Board of Education
1133 Blue Hills Avenue
Board Room

ATTENDANCE: M. Walters, Chair Absent
H. Frydman Present
R. Ike Absent

ALSO PRESENT: D. Harris E. Stoltz B. Silver
S. McCann M. Williams E. Pierce
C. Fisher W. Joslyn S. Simpson

1. CALL TO ORDER

H. Frydman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The roll was called and a quorum was not present.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2. A. Approval of Minutes – Curriculum Meeting – March 25, 2014

Review of meeting minutes for March 25, 2014 was tabled until the next Curriculum Committee Meeting.

3. NEW BUSINESS

3. A. Review of Data Team Process and presentation of 2014-2015 Data Team Calendar

Dr. Ellen Stoltz provided a copy of the presentation Holistic Accountability and the Data Team Process. The definition of Priority #1 – Holistic Accountability is a three-tiered process designed to ensure that the actions of all adults result in improving student achievement. On page 3 Dr. Stoltz discussed the data teams updated the Connecticut State Department of Education standards for instructional and school-wide Data Teams. Data Teams also conduct self-evaluations. There are three levels to the Data Team structure: classroom level, building level and district level. The Data Team process consists of a five-step process:

1. Collect and Display Data
2. Analyze Data and Prioritize Needs
3. Establish Goals
4. Select Instrumental Strategies
5. Determine Results Indicators

The outcome of the Data Teams is linked to Bloomfield Public Schools’ Theory of Action and has contributed significantly to raising student achievement. H. Frydman inquired about parent participation on the Data Teams, and the Cabinet members responded that this would not be the best venue since the information is confidential; however, information derived from the Data Team process is shared with a student’s parent or guardian.



A draft version of the 2014-2015 Data Team Calendar was shared with attendees.

3. B. Update on Strategic Communications Plan for Bloomfield Public Schools

Mr. Stan Simpson, Director of Strategic Communications and Planning presented a review of Bloomfield Public Schools Strategic Communications Plan. The goal of this plan is to spread the good news about Bloomfield Public Schools, create leverage in print, broadcast and digital media, and to change the image and reputation of Bloomfield Public Schools (BPS). The action plan to carry out these means, as presented on page 3 of the PowerPoint:

1. Listening Tour – talked with wide range of constituents/stakeholders.
2. Developed primer for school to write news briefs.
3. Energized Bloomfield Public Schools social media platforms.
4. Leveraged media contacts in print, broadcast and digital media to produce compelling stories.

These actions have made a positive impact. In last year, at least twenty encouraging news stories have been printed and there is a direct correlation of positive media to increased enrollment for the first time in five years. Mr. Simpson reviewed some recent impactful stories and shared some of BPS' profile including a promotional video, new slogan, visits to Rotary, editorials in the Hartford Courant and recognition by external organizations such as ConnCAN. Further, Mr. Simpson outlined the goals for the 2014-2015 school year including the development of corporate partnerships to support a highway billboard campaign, organizing outreach efforts and the cultivation of a national story on Bloomfield Public Schools.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting concluded at 7:14 p.m.

M. Walters, Chair