



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION - CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

Curriculum Committee Meeting AT Tuesday, May 28, 2019

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

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order
M. Walters
2. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Minutes - Curriculum Committee Meeting - April 23, 2019 2
M. Walters
3. New Business
 - A. 2017-2018 Performance and Profile Report
 - B. Silver
4. Adjournment
M. Walters



BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS – CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.
Bloomfield Board of Education
1133 Blue Hills Avenue
Board Room

ATTENDANCE: M. Walters, Chair Present
R. Ike Present
D. Bolton Absent

ALSO PRESENT: J. Thompson W. Guzman S. McCann
B. Silver S. Simpson E. Pierce
A.M. Cullinan D. Harris K. Redd-Hannas

1. CALL TO ORDER

M. Walters called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m. The roll was called and a quorum was present.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2. A. Approval of Minutes – Curriculum Committee – March 26, 2019

A motion was made by R. Ike and seconded by M. Walters for the Curriculum Committee to approve the minutes from March 26, 2019 regular committee meeting, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3. A. STEPS Update

A motion was made M. Walters and seconded by D. Harris to move agenda item 4. Old Business, item A. STEPS Update to agenda item 3.A. and Presentations, English Learners LAS Links Results to agenda item 4.A.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Wendy Shepard-Bannish, Director of Student Support Services provided a PowerPoint presentation on the STEPS Program. The presentation included the program’s Theory of Action, student body, staff, setting, curriculum, staff training, student progress and capacity for growth.

Ms. Shepard-Bannish stated the program is intended to provide students with an alternative learning that compliments students’ unique learning needs. She state the program is a place to grow, thrive, build relationships and learn at high levels. This K-8 program was launched in July 2018 with 4 staff members, and 13 students as of April 2019, and projecting 15 students by May 2019.



The program has special education teachers, part-time occupational therapist, ABBA, and is looking forward to capacity of growth. They utilize rooms 601-617 at Carmen Arace. It has rest and reflections rooms for students. All curriculum is grade appropriate. Lesson plans will be embedded with NGSS standards for the 2019-2020 school year. There are currently seven of thirteen students positively participating in transitioning back to home school.

Mr. Walters inquired about the breakdown of students. Mrs. Shepard-Shepard-Bannish indicated the following K-3 - 4 students, Grade 4 - 5 students, Grade 6 – 1 student, Grade 7 – 1 student, and Grade 8 - 1 student.

Mr. Ike inquired if the students could ride the school bus. Mrs. Shepard-Bannish stated that the program has been offset with a later start time of 8:45am and students are released at 3:00 pm. The challenge is when students are teased on the bus when certain behavior is exhibited. Mrs. Shepard-Bannish stated yes, some students may not fully understand why they are there.

Mr. Ike asked about parent participation with the program. Mrs. Shepard-Bannish stated that the parents are always receptive and the relationship between parent and staff is very strong.

Mr. Walters inquired about the cost savings of the program. Dr. Thompson the district is working on a report and will have it by the end of the year. Mr. Walters stated that this is a wonderful program and rated above private facilities. Ms. Cullinan also said that the program is closer to home versus and out of district facility. Mrs. Shepard-Bannish stated that the goal is to build the coping skill and habits so students can transition back to their schools.

4. PRESENTATIONS

3. A. English Learners LAS Links Results

Ms. Anne Marie Cullinan, Curriculum Specialist shared information on the English Learner fact sheet. Ms. Cullinan reviewed the legal responsibility of the district for the ELL program. The district must be compliant with the law in sound educational theory (research based), that is implemented effectively with sufficient resources and personal and must be evaluated to determine effectiveness.

There are currently 72 English Learners in grades K-12, this has increased from 38 students in 2016-2017. Ms. Shippee has contacted the University of Hartford regarding students in TESOL programs to work with the Bloomfield district.

Ms. Cullinan also shared the Language Proficiency Levels. It was also noted that parents sometimes do not grant permission for students to continue with the program once the survey scores are presented.

Mr. Walters commented on the GEMS international model and this is a reflection of the world we live. Dr. Thompson also stated that the dynamics of Bloomfield is changing.



Mr. Ike noted that we see the diversity in the schools and performances at the Bushnell.

5. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:51 p.m., a motion was made by R. Ike and seconded by M. Walters to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.

M. Walters, Chair