



# EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2022

Virtual Meeting - 8:30 A.M.

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Committee Members: Beth Fiore, Chair

Randall Peach, Carolyn Podgorski, Thomas Wallace

Administrative Staff: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent of Schools

Staci Beegle, Director of Pupil Services

Jason Bohm, SBA/Board Secretary

Dr. Stacey Brown, Humanities Supervisor

Sherry Krial, PD/Tech Supervisor

Sarah Pauch, Math, Science, Tech Supervisor

Anthony Tumolo, SEL Supervisor

Jim Belske, Technology Coordinator

## **Agenda**

1. Math Course Progression/Placement Criteria - Mrs. Pauch updated the Committee on the math course progression and placement criteria chart. The approved chart/criteria will be used in determining math placement and the new progression chart will be uploaded to the district website.
2. Preschool Special Education - Mrs. Beegle updated the Committee on proposed changes to the preschool extended day program for the '22-23 school year which would open an additional preschool class to meet the districts' needs and adjust hours to bring it into alignment with neighboring districts. The proposed changes include a shorter school day for students so teachers have the necessary, contractual prep time and parents could receive support, training, and coaching specific to their childs' needs.
3. ELL Recommendations - Mrs. Beagle discussed recommended changes to the district's ESL Program which include administering the annual ESL parent survey in different languages, encouraging participation in the Parent Advisory Committee, and providing professional development for teachers specific to the needs of English Language Learners.
4. Green Initiative Curriculum Writing - Dr. Hart discussed the plan to incorporate green initiatives that the district has already implemented into the curriculum as it is being updated with current New Jersey Student Learning Standards.
  - a. Goal is to infuse: solar kiosk data, partnerships/virtual field trips, climate change standards, careers in sustainability, and Digital Star/Sustainable Jersey activities into curriculum guides.
5. March 21 Teacher Inservice Schedule - Mrs. Krial presented the March 21st Teacher Inservice Schedule which includes a wide variety of professional development opportunities for teachers.

6. ESSER/ARP Grant and Consultant Funds - Dr. Hart discussed the \$118,000 of federal grant funding that is available to the district over the course of the next 2 years that can only be used for specific budget items.
  - a. More information to follow. Plans include hiring various consultants in literacy, math, using data as inquiry, and mental health
  - b. Other plans include sending teachers out to conferences
7. Field Test: Date Adjustments to the NJSLA Administration Spring 2022 - updated dates have been communicated to parents and are listed on the district calendar. The state changed our dates because our district is participating in two NJSLA field tests for the ELA and Science sections.
8. I-Ready Diagnostic website [Information Page](#) - The Curriculum Department has added a new page to the district website with iReady information for families.
9. Board Goals:
  - a. Goal 2: *To set budget parameters that effectively plan for enrollment growth, maintain the depth, breadth and quality of the educational and co-curricular program while remaining fiscally accountable to the community; Evaluating and assessing our redistricting plan to accommodate shifts in student population.* **Outcomes discussed:** Student achievement data, accelerate learning programs, and development of a Civics course along with other standards updates. **Progress:** Diagnostic data shows growth, all accelerate learning programs are up and running, Civics course under development.
  - b. Goal 4: *To continue our integration of Social-Emotional Learning across the curriculum as well as providing equitable access to mental health supports for all students and staff as needed as we resume in person teaching and learning.* **Outcomes discussed:** SEL Curriculum, Aavidum implementation, Hunterdon Behavioral Health implementation. **Progress:** SEL Curriculum approved in the fall, Aavidum pilot complete at RMS ongoing at elementary schools, and Hunterdon Behavioral Health counselor has a caseload of 16 students.
10. Texts to approve: 3 Historical Fiction books based in the 60s during the civil rights movement.
  - a. *Night on Fire* by Ronald Kidd (8th Grade Bookroom) Historical Fiction
  - b. *Revolution* by Deborah Wiles (8th Grade Bookroom) Fiction with actual historical documentation/pictures/posters in it.
  - c. *One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams-Garcia (8th Grade Bookroom) Historical Fiction
11. Next Meeting: April 4 @ 8:30am