

East Greenbush Central School District

COMMITTEE FOR CURRICULUM STUDY (CCS)

Administration - Board Conference Room

Wednesday, November 16, 2016 – 3:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

1. ATTENDANCE:

Meagan Asenbauer, English Department Chairperson
Thomas Brownell, Teacher Red Mill Elementary
John Caporta, Principal Red Mill
Frank DiDonato, Math Department Chairperson
Melissa Dupont, Reading Department Co-chairperson
Steve Ford, CTE Chairperson
Scott Halliday, Music Department Chairperson
Patricia Hannmann, Foreign Language Department Chairperson
Sarah Hoffman, Interim Assistant Principal
Tara Maney, Special Education Department Chairperson
Brian Marsh, CAP Department Chairperson
Wendy McAlonie, Social Studies Department Chairperson
Allison Milazzo, Guidance Department Chairperson
Andrea Neiman, Art Department Chairperson
Thomas O'Hara, Director of Technology
Lynne Pampel, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Thomas Ross, Science Department Chairperson
Helen Squillace, Director Pupil Personnel Services

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (10/26/16)

Motion made by: Melissa Dupont

Seconded by: Frank DiDonato

Motion to move forward without a quorum: Brian Marsh

Seconded by: Helen Squillace

Motion to approve the October 26, 2016 Meeting Minutes: Sarah Hoffman

Seconded by: Wendy McAlonie

3. CURRICULUM TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion for Meagan Asenbauer to use some of the \$300 CCS Funds for the purchase of a case for her Chromebook that is used for CCS minutes:

Motion by: Scott Halliday

Seconded by Melissa Dupont

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. **2016-2017 Subcommittee Reports**

- **Foreign Language (P. Hannmann)**

Patricia Hannmann shared the proposed Goals for World Languages. She and Lynne will be exploring the possibility of having a seal of biliteracy placed on the diplomas of any students, including ELL students, who complete at least four years of a world language to recognize this accomplishment. Patti then shared for the committee and Mr. Simons that this year French Level IV and Level V classes needed to be combined into one class, but HVCC will not grant college credit because it is a combined class and not two individual classes. Since the classes are not combined at the college level on the HVCC campus, the college doesn't think they should be combined at the high school level. She expressed a concern that if this is a trend to continue in the future, we will lose student interest in the subject.

- **Career and Technical Education (S. Ford)**

Tabled until a future date

- **Update on CTE and STEM Audit (Lynne)**

Tabled until a future date

b. **Guitar Course Proposal (S. Halliday)**

Scott introduced the idea to offer this course to students who are not in the CHS music program. This would offer students an opportunity to earn an Arts credit if they are not in another CHS musical group (band, orchestra, chorus, Chamber Singers). Curriculum would include teaching parts of the guitar, strumming, basic chords, barre chords, flat picking, correct finger placement on strings, how to read music, finger-picking techniques, tablature, reading chord notation, reading chord charts, learning tunes, guitar maintenance, and basic song form. Scott shared that offering one section of this class would cost nothing, although he would like to request .2 FTE. The music department presently owns 15 acoustic guitars so at this point there may not be the need to purchase more. There will be future discussion regarding the purchase of textbooks after teachers review the inclusion of possible texts.

Questions and/or Comments: Tara Maney asked how long the course would be, and Scott responded that at this point, he is considering a year-long course in order to fulfill the music requirement necessary for graduation. B. Marsh remarked that this would be a positive opportunity for many students, including CAP students who may not have the means to learn a skill like this one.

Motion to approve the course proposal: Tara Maney

Seconded by: Steve Ford

c. **Alternate Education Program Review (B. Marsh)**

Brian Marsh reviewed the revisions to his Program Review since the September meeting when he presented the review to the CCS Committee. Brian explained that he added the Social Studies 4+1 pathway information to the Social Studies component of the review, and also removed the requirement of a third year class of Math and Science taught by a CAP teacher. The CAP teachers also added one Smart Goal to review the daily attendance using Google Docs and on a visual dashboard in the CAP office so that students are visually aware of their attendance.

d. Athletic Department Program Review (M. Leonard)

Mike Leonard pointed out how many of our students are involved in athletics with an average of 1,367 per year, and how often EGCS D teams have been recognized by the NYSPHSAA as a Scholar/Athlete Team Award. He reviewed the goals of the athletic department, taking care to point out that our district will continue to provide a wealth of opportunities and experiences for student-athletes to enhance core curriculum and post-secondary preparation. Mike also pointed out how beneficial it has been that we have hired a full-time Athletic Trainer who is familiar with our students, NYS mandates, concussion protocol, etc. We presently offer 26 programs for our students (13 for females and 13 for males), as well as the Unified Basketball team for students with disabilities.

Comments: Helen Squillace pointed out that Mike Leonard was at the forefront of putting together the Unified Basketball and Unified Bowling teams, and that it has offered opportunities for students who may never have had the chance to play with and work with players on a team.

5. OLD BUSINESS

None at this time.

6. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

None at this time.

7. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

L. Pampel noted that we will not have a December meeting but will have a robust agenda for the January meeting. Wayne Grignon has requested that he present information regarding the math textbook chosen for Goff's Grades 6-8 math courses in February for BOE review in March. Steve Ford noted that as of today, he has created a Makerspace in the library in conjunction with Kate Ingham, the CHS Library Media Specialist. They will be holding monthly contests for the best creation.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting: Helen Squillace

Seconded by: Tom O'Hara