

Tolland Board of Education

Curriculum Committee Special Meeting Minutes

October 28th 2021

Members Present: Jacob Marie (Co-Chair), Christine Griffin

Members Absent: Madhu Renduchintala (Co-Chair)

Others Present: Dr. Willett (Superintendent of Schools)

1. Meeting Called to Order at 3:12pm
2. Superintendent's Monthly Report with Student Data: Tabled.
3. Portrait of a Graduate Update: Dr. Willett reviewed the district's 2021-2022 goals and indicators for student achievement. He also provided an overview of the timeline for the Portrait of a Graduate process. He stated that the Portrait of a Graduate document should be ready by the end of March. Mr. Marie asked if the document would be available for public viewing. Dr. Willett stated that a pared down version that describes things in laymen's terms will be easily available for the public to view.
4. SBAC Update: Dr. Willett mentioned that the state will likely do away with the SBAC test.
5. Personal Finance Course Update: Dr. Willett stated that he is looking into a \$40,000 grant for a middle school program that would cover many aspects that the Committee would like taught in schools. If the district is rewarded the grant, then it may be possible to have an entry level part one class at the middle school followed by a more comprehensive program at the high school. The entry level class would hopefully get students excited about the concept and interested in learning more about the subject. The Committee agreed that the grant deserves to be pursued by the district.
6. Math Presentation Follow-up: Ms. Griffin was pleased with the k-8 portion of the presentation. In particular, she liked the Bridges program. Ms. Griffin was, however, disappointed by a perceived lack of changes at the High School. She felt that more emphasis was needed on the intermediate math class offered at the High School, which she felt was particularly useful. Dr. Willett provided an overview of differences between k-8 math programs and high school level math programs. He mentioned that a lot more programs exist for the k-8 grade levels than high school programs. He also stated that "math labs" could be created at the High School to help students. These labs could even be done remotely to help students after school.
7. Adjournment: Ms. Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:00pm. Mr. Marie seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacob Marie