

Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
Wednesday, June 12, 2019
4:00 p.m.
District Offices, Board Room

Attendees: Dr. Michelle Cardwell, John Lumia, Peggy Kelland, Jessica Turner, Helen Soyka, Flip Gertler, Dave Seipp, Adam Panzer, Jennifer Bell, Catherine Riecker, Charles Williams, Jennifer Malizia, Kristen Cox, Diane DiChiara, Karen Smith, Eva Letizia, Joseph Glauda, Laura Kearney, Karen Ferrara

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Dr. Michelle Cardwell.

- Purpose of meeting is to discuss special education curriculum, resources, and standards: How can we better support teachers and students?
- Question: Is the common core curriculum appropriate for your students? If not, what should be changed?
- Secondary self-contained – How can the curriculum be differentiated to meet the standards? General education curriculum needs to be modified to support special education students.
- Teacher stated: More training needed for teachers to best differentiate curriculum. There are new math standards coming.
- Teacher stated: Collaboration is needed for new special education teachers to work with experienced teachers. Suggestion from teacher: Do not put new teachers in ICT for their first year. Teacher Suggestion: Special education teachers need to teach in their area of expertise.
- Teacher indicated that training offered at BOCES for ICT is very worthwhile.
- Teacher indicated that Self-contained 1A math teacher spending a lot of time teaching basic skills.
- Teacher indicated that Self-contained students aren't reading at grade level.
- Teacher indicated that in a self-contained grades 4/5 class – Elementary teachers are responsible for two grade levels.

- Teacher indicated that materials shouldn't be labeled with grade level to upset students.
- Teacher indicated that there is a need for appropriate high school self-contained classes to be offered. Financial math class was taken away.
- Teacher indicated that the Report card is an issue for self-contained students. It is standards-based and cannot show that the student is making progress to match the IEP progress report.
- Recommendation was made that the comment section on the report card should be utilized. Do not check boxes. Report card committee is meeting over the summer and this may come up as a topic of conversation.
- Teacher indicated that Special education social studies teachers need training.
- Teachers indicated that AP and Honors courses should be offered to autistic students. Pushback from general education teachers has been received in the past. Currently the District does not have open AP enrollment.
- Question: Are there programs to implement to help students?
- Suggestion: transition from self-contained to ICT in 11th grade US History and English. There are two June Regents exams for 11th grade students. AIS needed every other day for those subject areas instead of resource room.
- Teacher indicated that John Jay has SC 11th grade US History and ELA but RCK does not.
- Teacher suggested that there should be a typing program geared for special education students. Incorporate writing skills/typing skills which will support both ELA and Social Studies. The class taught at Kildonan is very successful.
- Teacher indicated that Teachers need more time to remediate students, especially SC students. Support period needed.
- Suggestion for a summer school for K—8 (not ESY) "Summer Learning Lab" as modeled in the Monroe/Woodbury School District.
- Teacher suggested that Summer school for junior high students needs to be offered again.
- Offer ESY closer to the start of school year.

- Curriculum Resource: K-2 Foundations – New Teachers College phonics program is being used at Sheafe Road with great results.
- Not every remediation is appropriate for every student. Some AIS teachers are not trained the same as special education teachers.
- Teacher indicated that Middle school concern – there is no reading program at the junior high level. The junior high schools differ regarding a reading class. Van Wyck uses Wilson, Just Words, WJHS does not offer that. SC students aren't offered that program while some ICT students are. Need a consistent reading program at both schools.
- Read 180 Comprehension is used in the Monticello School District. Every student is placed into a reading class if they are not on grade level.
- System 44 teaches decoding
- Excel Program – smaller class size but regents-based.
- The WCT union suggested having full time teaching assistants in both Part time K/1 ICT classrooms. This would allow teacher to flip flop.
- Question: Does the Common Core curriculum for special education students make them worse off?
- Teacher indicated that Special education students can be taught the steps but cannot apply it.
- Teacher indicated that for students didn't have common core in K-6, there is an impact in the secondary levels.
- Teacher indicated that Common Core challenges ELA students at the high school level.
- The minutes from the May 6, 2019 meeting were approved
- At upcoming reorganization BOE meeting there will be a proposal to revise the Curriculum Committee Charter.
- Modify core committee members – two BOE members instead of one on the core committee.
- On the sub-committee – one BOE member instead of two

- Two parents on core committee instead of one
- Sub-committee to be eliminated and increase the core committee.
- E-mails are sent to the principals, directors, teachers-in-charge at secondary level to invite teachers to attend.
- Guests are invited from WAA and WCT to the curriculum meetings based on the subject.
- Dr. Cardwell adjourned the Curriculum Committee meeting at 5:31 p.m.