# **Cheshire Public Schools**



# **Board of Education Curriculum Committee**

Monday, May 13, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.

### **Humiston Board Room**

# **Minutes**

**Committee Members Present**: Ms. Anne Marie Cullinan (Chair) and Dr. Anne Harrigan

Cheshire Public Schools Staff Present: Marlene Silano, Assistant Superintendent; Kevin

> Hanlon, K-8 Curriculum Coordinator; Dr. Maureen Reed, Assistant Principal - CHS; Kristin Pelz, Assistant Principal - CHS; Julie Barker, Science Department Chair

- CHS; Kristine Trifone, RAM - Highland School

Community Members Present: Irene Margary

#### 1. **Public Comment**

No public comment in-person or via email.

#### 2. **Review Minutes of April 15, 2024 Meeting**

Dr. Harrigan made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 15, 2024, Board of Education Curriculum Committee meeting. Ms. Cullinan seconded the motion. Ms. Cullinan and Dr. Harrigan voted to approve the April 15, 2024 minutes. The motion passed.

#### 3. **New Business**

- a. Out-of-Country Field Trip Request
  - Cheshire High School Seoul South Korea November 16-23, 2024 Julie Barker shared an opportunity for students who are participating in a research program as part of the ACES International 2024 United States-Korea Research and Education Collaborative. Students in the program have the opportunity to visit Seoul, South Korea from November 16-23, 2024 through a trip organized by ACES International. In addition to visiting historical sites, participating students will present their research to a Korean team at one of the local schools. The cost of the trip is \$4,290. The trip is designed for 10 students. Ms. Barker was seeking board approval for the trip as part of the effort to invite students to participate. Discussion included the relatively high cost of the trip as well as exploring possible options to partner with other schools if ten students did not sign up from Cheshire High School.

Dr. Harrigan made a motion to send the out-of-country field trip to Korea from November 16-23, 2024 to the full Board of Education for approval. Ms. Cullinan seconded the motion.

Ms. Cullinan and Dr. Harrigan voted to send the trip to the full Board of Education for approval and the motion passed.

## **b.** Science Cheshire Curriculum Council (CCC) Review - Executive Summary

• Members of the Science CCC (Julie Barker, Kevin Hanlon, Krisin Pelz, and Kristine Trifone) presented an executive summary of the five-year curriculum review that was shared with the full CCC in March. The theme of the presentation was to bring the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) into the Now. The committee emphasized the strong overlap between the expectations of NGSS and the district priorities related to Complex Thinking, Social Emotional Learning, and the district definition of High Quality Instruction (HQI). The NGSS assessment performance data indicates both significant strengths and areas for continued growth, and the status of the curriculum and instruction work of the K-12 Science department mirrors those strengths and needs. In the area of curriculum, some priorities for future work include fully aligning curriculum maps and units with NGSS standards (including pacing guides with articulated content (DCIs), practices (SEPs), and concepts (CCCs), phasing out TCI as an elementary resource, and reviewing pathways of course offerings at CHS.

## 4. Old Business

# 5. Informational Items

a. Assistant Superintendent Update

Marlene Silano shared that the Educator Evaluation Committee is meeting again on Wednesday, May 15th. The committee will continue to work to draft the Educator Evaluation Plan proposal for the 2024-25 school year. The intent is to bring the proposal to the June 10th Board of Education Curriculum Committee for review.

Additionally, Ms. Silano shared the anticipated elementary Science Teacher/Science Coach positions had been developed and were being posted. The positions are still pending final Board of Education budget approval during the May 16, 2024 meeting.

# 6. Adjourn

Dr. Harrigan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Cullinan seconded the motion. Ms. Cullinan and Dr. Harrigan voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 10, 2024, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Hanlon

Kevin J. Hanlon K-8 Curriculum Coordinator