

Cheshire Public Schools



Board of Education Curriculum Committee

Monday, March 10, 2025 – 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;

Public: None

1. Public Comment

No public comment in person or via email.

2. [Review Minutes of January 13, 2025 Meeting](#)

Dr. Harrigan made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2025, Board of Education Curriculum Committee meeting. Ms. Cullinan seconded the motion. Ms. Cullinan and Dr. Harrigan voted to approve the January 13, 2025. The motion passed.

3. New Business

a. Math Benchmark Assessment Update

Kevin Hanlon provided an overview of iReady Math Diagnostic Assessment data from the fall and winter administrations of the assessment in grades 6-8. There were several areas of improved performance and growth for this year as compared to last. Notably, for Dodd Middle School, this year students demonstrated higher growth from the fall to winter administration of the assessment (100% of the typical growth goal this year as compared to 69% last year). Additionally, the students who started the year the furthest away from grade-level proficiency made the greatest growth (aka - closing the gap).

- ##### **b. Updated Guidance on Safe School Climate Survey - [Parents](#), [Students](#) & [School Employees](#)**
- Marlene Silano shared state guidance for the Safe School Climate Survey. This survey is for students in grades 3-12 and has research backing. Some minor differences between the previous survey and the recommended survey were noted. The committee discussed

demographic questions at the beginning of the survey as well as the rates of completion from parents and students.

c. Algebra I Resource Update

Kevin Hanlon gave a brief update on the status of piloting the iReady Algebra I resources this school year. The feedback on the pilot to date is, as with the grades 6-8 version of iReady, that the resource provides rigorous math experiences for students. It is anticipated that iReady Algebra I will be brought to the May Board of Education Curriculum Sub-Committee Meeting as a recommended resource for adoption.

4. Informational Items

a. Assistant Superintendent Update

Marlene Silano noted that curricular areas were just finishing mid-year department goal meetings. At these meetings, in addition to providing a status on goals, departments indicated priorities for curriculum updates. These include proposed projects for the summer Curriculum Writing Institute (CWI) as well as other related curriculum projects. Trends in this year's requests show the potential for a slightly smaller CWI while there may be a greater need for related curricular updates.

A few weeks ago, Dr. Jeff Solan, Marlene Silano, Kevin Hanlon, and Pat Castle were invited, with two other districts, to present at the regular Connecticut Literacy Council meeting. The presentation highlighted that curriculum decisions have been based on research for a long time; data shows closing of gaps of key student sub-groups and improved performance in foundational reading skills; the district notes 100% of K-3 teachers and interventionists provide common and consistent daily direct instruction and targeted practice in foundational reading skills; and the district next steps include focusing on the needs of an increasing multilingual learner population.

1. 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 8:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 21, 2025, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Hanlon

Kevin J. Hanlon
K-8 Curriculum Coordinator