

## **Curriculum Committee Meeting**

October 17, 2018 8:15 a.m.

Central Office Conference Room

### **1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m.

#### Present Committee Members:

Sara Spaulding (Chairperson), Dan McNeill, Ellen Uzenoff

#### Present Administration:

William McKersie, Superintendent; Kenneth Craw, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent; Michael Rizzo, Assistant Superintendent of Pupil Services; Lisa Deorio, WHS Principal; Dan Doak, WMS Principal

#### Members of the Public:

Gina Albert

### **2. Update on Public Act No. 17-42: An Act Concerning Revision to the High School Graduation Requirements**

#### Discussion:

- The Class of 2023 will be required to successfully complete 25 credits. Currently, Weston graduates are required to amass at least 24 credits as specified by our graduation policy.
- There are two critical changes to the State Department of Education high school graduation requirements anticipated for the Class of 2023 over Weston High School's requirements: (1) an added credit based on a mastery based assessment; and (2) the health requirement increasing from a half credit to a full credit.
- Further research will be conducted on the mastery-based assessment requirement.
- The new full credit requirement for health and safety education will have a staffing impact.
- Next steps are to meet with the high school PE department to discuss the change in health requirements.
- Mr. Rizzo spoke about incorporating a counseling-based program called Dialectical Behavioral Therapy into the 6-12 health curriculum program. Mike has created a WEF proposal seeking to fund the program.

### **3. Update on implementation of the new middle school master schedule**

#### Discussion:

- Mr. Doak reported that the middle school has about 99% access to the full program as it was intended.
- There are a few students who do not have world language due to an IEP.
- The overall impact on SPED students is positive. They do not have to miss an important class in order to take support classes.

- By utilizing some creative staffing, middle school has been piloting art enrichment and technology enrichment this year.
- The middle school is exploring the possibility of a schoolwide enrichment model. The Passion Project and Science Discovery Workshop could possibly become enrichment.
- Most parents have commented that the Extended Learning Time (ELT) block has a positive impact in that it gives students time during the day to work on assignments or pursue interests.

#### **4. Update on World Language renewal update: Sixth grade world language program**

Discussion:

- Weston's sixth grade world language courses meet every other day. Other top-performing districts provide language instruction on a daily basis. Weston is exploring the possibility of moving to everyday world language in sixth grade.
- This change would require an increase of 0.9 FTE.

#### **5. Review of K-12 PPS/SPED professional learning on October 8**

Discussion:

- Schoolwide PPS/SPED programs were offered on this day.
- The Nurtured Heart Program was presented to the entire middle school staff. It addressed how to help students with behavioral challenges. The session focused on how to reframe the behavior of the student and the adult's response.
- At the high school, the entire staff participated in professional development on special education. The topic of discussion revolved around how to modify instruction to accommodate our students with special needs.
- Comprehensive educational evaluations were the focus for the afternoon. Teachers and leaders set goals in improving this process.

#### **6. Approval of September 2018 minutes**

**Motion Passed:** passed with a motion by Ellen Uzenoff and a second by Dan McNeill.  
**3 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

#### **9. Other curricular issues**

Discussion:

No other topics were put forth for discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

June Curiano  
 Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent