

## **Curriculum Committee Meeting**

February 19, 2020 9:00 a.m.

Central Office Conference Room

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

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

#### Present Committee Members:

Taffy Miller (Chairperson), Hillary Koyner, Gina Albert (by phone)

#### Present Administration:

William McKersie, Ph.D., Superintendent; Kenneth Craw, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent; Lisa Wolak, WHS Principal; Dan Doak, WMS Principal; Pattie Falber, WIS Principal; Laura Kaddis, HES Principal; Alex Bluestein, K-5 ELA and Social Studies CIL; Christine Cincotta, 6-12 ELA CIL

### **2. Review and discussion of annual Next Generation State Accountability Report**

Discussion:

- Dr. Craw provided background information on the Next Gen State Accountability Report.
- Each of the Principals commented on their respective schools and how they are using the information from the annual report to identify areas for growth and improvement.
- The principals also noted that areas where students are doing well serve to inform them on how to continually raise the bar.

### **3. Presentation and Discussion of K-8 Literacy Program**

Discussion:

- Ms. Bluestein and Ms. Cincotta provided a presentation on the Weston K-8 literacy program with special emphasis and on grades 5-8.
- The presenters discussed the workshop model of teaching English Language Arts.
- The impact of eliminating the sixth grade double block of ELA was presented and discussed.
  - Sixth grade serves as a bridge year between intermediate and middle school especially in ELA as 6<sup>th</sup> grade students go from 120 minutes of reading and writing per day in 5<sup>th</sup> grade to 86 minutes per day in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, which then goes down to 43 minutes in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - Elimination of the double ELA block would affect the depth of teaching as the double block allows deeper learning into a topic and allows the teacher to teach the writing process.
  - The CILs, Principals and Assistant Superintendent have recommended to maintain the current 6<sup>th</sup> grade ELA structure, continue to study the double block structure and provide the Curriculum Committee with an update in the fall.

#### **4. Approval of January 2020 Minutes**

**Motion Passed:** passed with a motion by Taffy Miller and a second by Hillary Koyner.  
**2 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

#### **5. Other curricular issues**

No other items were put forth for discussion. Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

June Curiano  
Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent