

**PLAINVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

Monday, January 9, 2023: 5:30 PM

Meeting Topics:

Meeting Agenda

- **Update on Math curriculum implementation**
 - **IM at elementary**
 - **Desmos at middle**
- **Language Arts**
 - **K-3 state approved reading model/curricula and district waiver**
 - **MSP Literacy work**
- **World Language at MSP**
- **New Course Proposals**
- **New College and Career Pathway Possibilities**
 - **Goodwin**
 - **CCSU**
 - **UConn**
 - **Griffin Health (Hartford Health)**

Place and Time: **Plainville High School Learning Commons**
47 Robert Holcomb Way
Plainville, CT 06062

Members Present: Becky Martinez, Rachel Buchanan, Cassandra Clark, Crystal St. Lawrence, Becky Tyrrell, Lori Consalvo, Foster White

Members Absent: Deborah Hardy and Laurie Peterson

Also Present: Steven K. LePage, Superintendent of Schools
David Levenduski, Assistant Superintendent
Tawana Graham-Douglas, Director Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Early Departures: None

Chairperson Becky Martinez called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm. David Levenduski and Tawana Graham-Douglas gave a brief update on the IM (Illustrative Math) program that is being used at the Elementary level. They stated that things are going well, there has been good conversations between teachers and the administration about how to support students. The company has been very helpful whenever concerns or questions arise. They then gave an update on the Middle School Math program Desmos. The program is running very well in grade 6 and 7. After a review and conversation between the High School and Middle School math teachers, they felt that the program was not rigorous enough in

the grade 8 Algebra program. The district feels that students would benefit more from a more rigorous program. Ms. Graham-Douglas has been checking with different districts to see what they are using and if they have been successful. Discussion continued.

They then spoke in regards to the K-3 state approved reading model/curricula and district waiver. The state has sent a new program that addresses all areas in that district's language arts curricula. Plainville will complete the waiver indicating that we are teaching what the state requires. The waiver is due to the State by the end of February. This year there has been an emphasis on phonics, phonics is a method for teaching how to read and write an alphabetic language. It is done by demonstrating the relationship between the sounds of the spoken language, and the letters or groups of letters of the written language. The district also used Universal Screening to identify students that are struggling in reading. Ms. Graham-Douglas will bring samples of the districts reading and writing programs for the Committee to observe at their next meeting. Discussion continued.

There was discussion regarding the Middle School literacy work. They have fully implemented the ELA program at the Middle School in grades 6-8 and it is going very well. Teachers' College Staff Developer Heather Burns has partnered with the MSP this year for personalized sessions inclusive of modeling in lab site classrooms, professional development grounded in current literacy research and best practices. Teachers are participating in programs with Teachers' College on vocabulary instruction and teaching comprehensive strategies to tackle complex texts. Discussion continued.

The Middle School has been struggling to staff their World Language Department. Mr. LePage has just hired a new teacher who is moving in from Virginia to teach World Language. Becky Martinez would like to keep World Language starting in grade 8. Other districts are teaching languages in earlier grades. Discussion continued.

There have been several New Course proposals at Plainville High School. One in Business, Greek Mythology and SAT Prep. There are also New College and Career Pathway possibilities:
Goodwin College – Engineering Concepts, CAD Blueprint
CCSU – Healthcare and Steam Pathways and Construction Management
UCONN – Special Education Courses
Hartford Health – Health Pathways

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Tina Gryguc
Recording Secretary