

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
October 28, 2015**

The October 28, 2015 Curriculum Committee meeting was called to order by Tim Neville, Chair at 3:07 PM.

**Present:** Tim Neville, Ray Peabody, Stacy Thurston, Andy Longey, Paul Newton and Michelle Middleton

**Audiences:** None

**New Business:**

Committee members discussed the need for today's meeting and for the need to have a clear understanding of what is being proposed and how it should be presented to the entire Board and public.

**a. New Schedule**

Mr. Newton and Mr. Longey presented the proposed "New Enfield High School" schedule. The objective is for it to feel like a new school for all students. They explained the principles behind the changes. The proposed schedule consists of an 8 period day with longer class periods. They discussed the impact of the schedule for instructional time. They added that an 8 period day with no study halls and Eagle Hour will lead to increased credit opportunities and increased instructional time.

Committee members asked if it would be possible to schedule 100% of the students with no study halls and if teachers would have a problem with the schedule. The principals explained that there was a very large committee consisting of many teachers that were involved in the process.

Committee members asked if the teachers liked the idea of Eagle Hour. Mr. Longey explained that some teachers had visited Manchester High School to see their Power Hour and came back with positive feedback. The Eagle Hour is modeled after this program.

Committee members asked if it is possible to get all of the student body through the lunch lines in an hour. The principals explained that larger schools than the new Enfield High are doing a similar program.

Committee members recommended the principals modify their presentation to highlight all of the issues the new schedule will be correcting. They also suggested the inclusion of the benefits of the Eagle Hour.

**b. 4.0 Grading Scale Adoption**

Mr. Newton and Mr. Longey explained the proposal of changing to a 4.0 grading scale weighing only externally moderated courses (i.e., UConn ECE and AP). Committee members questioned whether everyone would understand what an externally moderated course means. The new 4.0 grading scale was shown to Committee members. Committee members commented that they liked that it was a clean slide and it was easily understood.

**c. Move to Decile Rank**

Mr. Newton and Mr. Longey explained the idea of moving to a decile rank. How it is calculated and what it means. They also explained why districts are using it instead of class rank. Colleges do not look at class rank anymore. They are more interested now in well-rounded students.

**d. Valedictorian & Salutatorian**

Mr. Newton and Mr. Longey explained the proposal of doing away with valedictorian and salutatorian. Committee members asked what happens to the top 2 students who receive UConn scholarships. The principals stated they would still be able to provide those names to UConn. We would also develop a process and criteria for students to choose the graduation speakers.

**e. Weighting of Courses**

Committee members told the principals that they have not yet approved some of the proposed electives, specifically in science and music. We need to know if they would work with the new schedule.

This will be revisited at the November Curriculum Subcommittee meeting.

**Items from the Table** - None

**Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Middleton  
Chief Academic Officer