

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 23, 2023**

The February 23, 2023, Curriculum Committee meeting was called to order by Amanda Pickett at 5:05 PM.

**Present:** Amanda Pickett, Dr. Gerald Calnen and Jean Acree

**Also Present:** Michelle Middleton, JFK Principal Dr. Andrew Berrios, JFK Assistant Principal Sarah Brown, Madam Chair Tina LeBlanc, Board Members Josh Hamre & Janet Cushman

**Audience:** None

**JFK Program of Studies:**

Ms. Brown gave committee members an overview of the changes that have been made to the JFK Program of Studies. She explained that everyone had been given two documents. One was a quick reference guide of the changes, and the other was the draft of the new JFK Program of Studies; the second document had all the changes highlighted in yellow. Ms. Brown and Dr. Berrios explained how JFK's Program of Studies has not been updated in a long time. Ms. Brown explained that in the past the same course code was used for honors and non-honors classes. In the new document, the course codes are different. This change is being made to help parents and guardians see into which course their student is being recommended. To reflect the courses more accurately, the descriptions have been updated by the department coordinators. Some course titles have been changed to give a better understanding of the course as well. It was pointed out that there are bigger changes in the electives section. For example, the word STEAM has been added before all the STEAM and technology education courses. The technology education courses titles have been changed to highlight the differences between the two courses. Two new course additions were discussed: Integrated Art and Advanced Art. Integrated Art is a course that will have both special education students and typical peers working together.

Committee members asked if there is an overlap in typical peers that want to be in this course as well as Social Theatre Arts. It was explained that yes there is an overlap in interested students between those courses and Unified Sports as well. It was also explained that we often have more typical peers requesting the courses than can be accommodated.

Committee members asked if we could put the word integrated into Social Theatre Arts. It was discussed that it could probably be added to the description of the course. Ms. Brown discussed the new course Advanced Art. She explained that it may not run every year. It would depend on the number of students meeting the criteria for entrance.

Committee members thanked Ms. Brown and Dr. Berrios for the time and effort put into creating this document. They appreciated the different courses we offer at the middle school.

**TAG:**

Ms. Middleton handed out a copy of our newly approved policy 6172.1 Gifted and Talented Students Program. She explained that she felt it was important to review this policy because any changes to the TAG program need to start here. Dr. Berrios explained to committee members that he sent out a survey about TAG programming to administrators in different school districts in the surrounding area. He did not receive many responses. He then explained that he spoke to

the person in charge of TAG in West Hartford. He was impressed by their program. He also spoke to someone at UConn. Implementing the programming UConn suggested would require a district-wide philosophical shift. A committee member asked if part of the endowment could be used to bring in a consultant. There were also questions about some of the criteria in the policy and how they impact identification.

Committee members decided that the Curriculum committee chair would send an email with these questions to the Board chair, who would speak to the superintendent about next steps.

**Additional “M” Course:**

Ms. Middleton explained that she had neglected to propose the addition of AP/UCONN Environmental Science as another “M” course in the EHS Program of Studies. The committee liked the idea of having a science option.

Committee members approved this change.

**Invention Convention:**

Ms. Middleton told the committee members that Enfield’s Invention Convention is on Saturday, March 4 at JFK. It runs from 9:00-12:00. Last year’s Invention Convention was discussed by members who attended. Mr. Hamre reminded Ms. Middleton that he was a judge last year. Ms. Middleton is going to send Mrs. Beebe an email, copying Mr. Hamre, letting Mrs. Beebe know that Mr. Hamre will judge again if one is needed.

**Items from the Table:**

Dr. Calnen would like more information regarding the health curriculum. Ms. Middleton will place that item on an upcoming meeting agenda.

Mrs. Pickett stated the State is running a Science of Reading cohort and wondered if Enfield was interested in this opportunity. Ms. Middleton will discuss this with the superintendent.

Mrs. Cushman has been looking at the new civil discourse policy. She wondered if this has been addressed in classrooms. Ms. Middleton explained it is addressed at all levels but looks different. At the K-5 level it is not called civil discourse but is addressed through classroom and PBIS expectations. At this level it is not uncommon for students to develop classroom norms or rules. At the 6-12 level it is definitely addressed in social studies classes, but these ideas are not limited to that one content area.

The next Curriculum meeting will be held on March 23, 2023 at 5:00 PM.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Middleton  
Chief Academic Officer