

# BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Teaching & Learning Committee Minutes

DATE: December 13, 2023

LOCATION: Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria  
185 Damascus Road, Branford, CT

SUBJECT: Teaching & Learning Committee

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### ATTENDANCE

| HERE | ATTENDEE                                 | AFFILIATION        |
|------|--|--------------------|
| Y    | Ellen Michaels, Committee Chair          | Board of Education |
| Y    | Peter Berdon                             | Board of Education |
| Y    | Judith Barron                            | Board of Education |
| Y    | Meaghan DeLucia                          | Board of Education |
| Y    | Adam Greenberg                           | Board of Education |
| Y    | Marie McNamara                           | Board of Education |
| N    | Ram Shrestha                             | Board of Education |
| Y    | Shawn Tiernan                            | Board of Education |
| Y    | Laura Troidle                            | Board of Education |
| Y    | Dr. Christopher Tranberg, Superintendent | Central Office     |
| Y    | Allison Moran, Assistant Superintendent  | Central Office     |
| Y    | Don Neel, Chief Operating Officer        | Central Office     |

Others in attendance: Curriculum Coordinators, Lauren Skultety and Katie Wagner; District teachers and coaches; Bridget Grenier, James Carlson, Aaron Brenner, Christian Miller, Kristin Mancini and Amanda Smith,

### BUSINESS ITEMS

#### ITEM DESCRIPTION

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#### CALL

- 01 Meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Ellen Michaels.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments made at this evening's meeting.

#### APPROVE MINUTES

- 02 MOTION (DeLucia/Tiernan) to approve minutes from the October 11, 2023, Teaching & Learning Committee meeting.  
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

#### DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM

03 New Course Approvals

Among the items discussed this evening were; the three proposed courses, French UCONN ECE (an advanced study of French texts, including extensive written practice in a variety of forms ranging from compositions, essays, summaries, and film reviews), Social Studies: Human Rights (this course will study the upholding and suppression of human rights across various points in history and across borders and will establish a core understanding of the human rights we all share and how the violation of human rights begins) and English AP Language and Composition (this course cultivates the reading and writing skills that students need for college success and for intellectually responsible civic engagement, guides students in becoming curious, critical, and responsive readers of diverse texts and becoming flexible, reflective writers of texts addressed to diverse audiences for diverse purposes).

MOTION (DeLucia/Tiernan) to move the new courses requests to Full Board for approval  
APPROVED ANANIMOUSLY

Continued...

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### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### **04 Universal Screening Overview and Fall Performance Report**

Among the items discussed in this evening's Universal Screening Overview and Fall Performance Report presentation were; Mission and Global Competencies, Strategic Coherence Plan (SCP), the definition of Deep Learning, Universal Screening overview and data use, fall student data - median percentiles (K-1 early literacy and early numeracy, grades 1-8 reading, grades 2-8 math), Tier Transitions (sample report, will be available this winter) and Aimsweb: Fall Reading & Math Tiers Report.

#### **05 Summer School Student Data Report**

Among the items discussed in this evening's Summer School Student Data presentation were; Summer School Elementary Data - elementary attendance, elementary fall reading and mathematics - Aimsweb (grades 1-4 risk status, attendance and summer enrichment) and Elementary Summary (new universal screener, no pre/post assessment data, overall summer school served high risk students - tiers 2 & 3, no impact on attendance for general education). Intermediate School Student Data - Incoming Grade 5 Attendance Data: Full Population (students who did not attend vs. students who did attend), Incoming Grade 5 Attendance: Economic Status (students who receive free and reduced lunch vs. students who pay full price), Incoming Grade 5 Attendance: ELL Status (students who do not speak English as a primary language vs. students who speak English as their primary language), WIS Fall Reading and Mathematics - Aimsweb (grades 5-8 risk status, attendance and summer enrichment), Intermediate School Summary (new universal screener, no pre/post assessment data, overall summer school served high risk students - tiers 2 & 3, students in our high needs populations have demonstrated greater growth in attendance). High school student data - High School Trends (attendance and academic performance) and Credit Recovery. Future planning - Planning Phase (develop a math and reading curriculum for rising grades 1-8, balance the need for SEL and enrichment opportunities with academic needs, consider pre and post assessments, continue to use Aimsweb ((Spring-Fall)) to study growth and consider adding more certification classes for middle school and high school students).

### **ADJOURN**

#### **06 MOTION (DeLucia/Tiernan) to adjourn.**

**APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Ms. Michaels adjourned the meeting at 7:13 PM.

The next Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting will be  
January 10, 2024 at 6:00 PM at Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria.

Respectfully submitted,  
Meaghan DeLucia  
Secretary

Prepared by,  
Kerry Eyrich