



CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 29, 2013
Central Office
7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Ed Strumello, Chairman
Jim Garofolo
Fred Stanek

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Christine Syriac
Nancy Snopkowski
Glenn Lungarini
Jim Freund
Paul Lucke
Ernie DiStasi
MarySue Feige
Pat Boyle, Board Clerk

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance

A. Revised Seymour Middle School Language Arts Curriculum--Grades 6-8.

Mrs. Snopkowski gave a brief overview of the process used at Seymour Middle School to work on the revised curriculum with the inclusion of benchmarks. Kelly Flannery from the high school worked with the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade teachers to help them align their benchmarks not only to the common core state standards but also to the benchmarks at the high school.

MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo/sec., Mr. Stanek) to recommend to the full BOE approval of the revised Seymour Middle School Language Arts Curriculum—Grades 6-8

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofalo, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

B. Sample Elementary Language Arts Curriculum—Grades K-5

Mrs. Snopkowski explained that this was a transition year from Mary Lavoie as the Curriculum Director, who was in charge of writing the curriculum to the facilitation of the piloted program by Mr. Olechna, Mrs. Feige and herself. The teachers who piloted the program met several times this year. Mrs. Syriac pointed out that Seymour would not have to purchase a program to support this curriculum as Story Town has already been in use and is embedded as one resource into the curriculum. The purchases necessary will be supplemental reading books which have already been purchased for both schools. Mr. Strumello wanted to clarify that this was not a revised curriculum. It was confirmed that this was a new curriculum. Mr. Strumello asked since the high school was involved in helping the middle school with their benchmarks would the middle school be helping the elementary schools with theirs, and how that was going to be handled without department chairs. Mrs. Snopkowski stated that the elementary teachers would be given the middle school's benchmarks and that she would also like Kelly Flannery to work with them so that the transitions would be aligned K-12. Mrs. Syriac stated that this curriculum was much more in depth than any other curriculum that is currently being used. Mr. Strumello wanted to make sure that it is not going to be put in a folder and not used. Mrs. Syriac and Mrs. Snopkowski were in agreement that this would not be the case. They also stated that they were very proud of all of the work the teachers did on this curriculum. Mrs. Feige said that the teachers "owned" this curriculum since they were responsible for writing it.

Mr. Garofolo wanted to know what bumps in the road were anticipated. Mrs. Syriac stated that one bump she foresees is the purchasing of additional materials. All of the starting resources have already been purchased. When the rest of the teachers start using the curriculum they may request different books. Mr. Garofolo asked with budget constraints would that be a problem. Mrs. Syriac is confident that at this time we can support the program.

MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo/sec., Mr. Stanek) to recommend to the full BOE the approval of the Elementary Language Arts Curriculum—Grades K-5

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofalo, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

C. Seymour High School Textbook Requests

1. *Forensic Science for High School*

Mr. Strumello stated that he would like an answer to question 11 (List other textbooks/publishers reviewed. Describe why they were not selected?) Mr. Lungarini stated they chose the textbook they did because of the access to assessments plus the online components. Mr. Strumello said that is still not an answer to why other textbooks were not selected. Mr. Strumello thought perhaps the second part to question 11 should just be omitted. Mr. Stanek wanted to know if this course was in place of an existing course. Mr. Freund said that this was an additional science elective. Mr. Stanek wanted to know if this course was going to be a course in sequence with other courses. Mr. Freund stated not at this time.

MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Mr. Garofolo) to recommend to the full BOE the adoption of the textbook entitled *Forensic Science for the High School* for the Introduction to Forensics Class at Seymour High School.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

2. *Elementary Statistics, Picturing the World*

Mr. Strumello had the same issue with question 11 not being answered. He also wanted to know from question 12 the readability of the chosen text. Mr. Lucke said the book had not been rated at this time.

MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Mr. Garofolo) to recommend to the full BOE the adoption of the textbook entitled *Elementary Statistics, Picturing the World* for the Probability and Statistics class at Seymour High School

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

3. *Practice of Statistics, 4th Edition*

This is a replacement book for the AP Statistics class currently being taught at Seymour High School. Mr. Strumello had the same problem with question 11. There was no discussion on this book.

MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo/sec., Mr. Stanek) to recommend to the full BOE the adoption of the textbook entitled *The Practice of Statistics, 4th Edition* for the AP Statistics class at Seymour High School.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

4. *Fundamentals of Athletic Training*

Mr. Strumello commented that question 11 is done correctly. Mr. Garofolo stated the readability was post high school. Mr. Stanek wanted to know what subject it would align to. Mr. Freund stated it was a health elective which included 4 hours of experience after school with the high school athlete trainer as well as CPR and first aid certification. The high school is hoping to make the students more marketable for summer jobs as well as building pathways to careers in the medical field.

MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo/sec., Mr. Stanek) to recommend to the full BOE the adoption of the textbook entitled *Fundamentals of Athletic Training* for the Injury Care and Prevention class at Seymour High School.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

5. *The Compact Bedford Introduction to Drama*

Mr. Strumello stated that question 11 was not fully answered. Mr. Stanek asked if this class was broader than originally described. Mr. Lungarini said this textbook offered more variety.

MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Mr. Garofolo) to recommend to the full BOE the adoption of the textbook entitled *The Compact Bedford Introduction to Drama* for The Play's the Thing class at Seymour High School.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

6. *The Western Heritage Since 1300*

Mr. Strumello stated that question 11 was well answered. Mr. Stanek wanted to know how many students had currently enrolled in this class. Mr. Lucke said the roster was 21 at this time. Mr. Stanek stated he was very pleased with the addition of AP classes at the high school.

MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo/sec., Mr. Stanek) to recommend to the full BOE the textbook entitled *The Western Heritage Since 1300* for AP European History class at Seymour High School.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Garofolo, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

D. **Chairman's Report**

Mr. Strumello made the suggestion to eliminate the second part of question 11 from the textbook selection document. Mr. Garofolo requested it be added to the minutes that the committee wanted to thank those present at this meeting as well as the entire faculty who worked on the curriculum development and textbook selections for putting together these documents and for all of their hard work.

E. **Superintendents Report**

No report at this time

F. **Adjournment**

MOTION: (Mr. Garofolo/sec., Mr. Stanek) to adjourn the meeting

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Submitted by:
Pat Boyle
Board Clerk

