



CURRICULUM and TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 24, 2015

Seymour Middle School

Library Media Room

7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Kristen Harmeling
Ed Strumello
COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT: Fred Stanek
OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Nancy Snopkowski, Associate Superintendent
James Freund, SHS Principal
Tara Yusko, SHS Assistant Principal
Bernadette Hamad, SMS Principal
Pat Boyle, Board Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Ed Strumello called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:07 p.m.

II. RECOMMENDED ACTION

A. Seymour Middle School Curriculum

1. STEM Curriculum- Grade 7
2. STEM Curriculum- Grade 8

Mrs. Hamad stated this was the balance of the curriculum for the STEM classes at the middle school. It will be phased in by the 2016-2017 school year; all units will be in house and running.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling /sec., Mr. Strumello) to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Seymour Middle School STEM Curriculum for Grades 7 and 8.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Strumello

B. Seymour High School Curriculum

1. Journalism Curriculum Grade 11 and 12

Ms. Yusko explained that this was a semester class. It is aligned with PBS news stories. It is the intent to have student's work published. The end goal of the class is to have a TV show project. Ms. Yusko stated this is a basic class with the hope of adding a more advanced journalism class later. Ms. Harmeling wanted to know if this would be linked to the Seymour High School Newspaper and if there were any prerequisites to take this course. Ms. Yusko stated that this class is only offered to juniors and seniors and it would be a possibility in the future to have this integrated with the school newspaper.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Strumello) to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Seymour High Journalism Curriculum Grade 11 and 12.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Strumello

2. Film Narrative and Technique Curriculum Grade 11 and 12

Ms. Yusko stated the focus of this class is to review and analyze a film that they have already read as either a book or play. It requires students to look at the various aspects of film. Upon completion of this class, students will never look at a movie the same way again. The end project for this class will be the production of a brief movie. Mr. Strumello wanted to make sure the Journalism and Film Narrative and Technique classes were not written for specific teachers. Ms. Yusko stated that anyone with an interest in these subjects would be able to take the curriculum and teach the course.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Strumello) to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Seymour High School Film Narrative and Technique Curriculum Grade 11 and 12.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Strumello

C. Seymour High School Textbook Selection

1. Textbook Selection-*Journalism Matters*

Ms. Yusko stated this textbook was chosen as it supports and supplements the curriculum.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Strumello) to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Seymour High School Journalism Textbook entitled *Journalism Matters*.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Strumello

2. Textbook Selection-*Understanding Movies*

Ms. Yusko stated that this textbook supports and supplements the curriculum previously approved. This book was selected as there were a lot of supplemental teaching materials associated with this book. Ms. Harmeling was concerned that it was a soft cover and would be taken back and forth home. Ms. Yusko said it would have to go home at least in the beginning due to the extent of the vocabulary that would need to be addressed.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling /sec., Mr. Strumello) to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Seymour High School Film Narrative and Technique Textbook entitled *Understanding Movies*.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Strumello

3. Textbook Selection-*AP Edition Campbell Biology 10th Edition*

Mr. Freund stated this is the updated version of the current book. For us to maintain UConn Biology and AP Biology we need to have an updated textbook. He stated that this is a typical college textbook. Ms. Hamad asked if there was an online version so the students didn't have to carry this book back and forth due to the size of the textbook. Mr. Freund affirmed that there was an on-line version for students to access at home if they wished.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Strumello) to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Seymour High School AP Biology Textbook entitled *AP Edition Campbell Biology 10th Edition*.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Strumello

4. Textbook Selection-*Emergency Care & Transport of the Sick and Injured*

Mr. Strumello was concerned with the durability of this book, as it is a paperback book, he felt it would be better had they placed it in a binder. Mr. Freund said this is a book that would be replaced every year it is offered. The students would highlight in this book and keep it as a resource. There is also an on-line version of this book. Mr. Freund stated that this is a very costly program but worth the cost. Mr. Freund also relayed that each student in this course had two interviews to make sure they understood the rigor of the program and to eliminate students taking and then dropping this course. This is a course that will be offered on alternate years only to juniors and seniors.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling /sec., Mr. Strumello) to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Seymour High School EMT Textbook entitled *Emergency Care & Transport of the Sick and Injured*.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Strumello

III. REPORTS

A. Chairman's Report

None

B. Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Snopkowski thanked Mr. Strumello and Ms. Harmeling for having the meeting and allowing her to finish the on-going curriculum. This allows the curriculum to be brought forth to the full board next month and for the schools to be able to move forward.

IV. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling/sec., Mr. Strumello) to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mrs. Harmeling, Mr. Strumello

Submitted by:
Pat Boyle