

**New Milford Board of Education
 Committee on Learning Meeting Minutes
 August 1, 2023
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

RECEIVED
 TOWN CLERK
 2023 AUG -3 A 11:15
 NEW MILFORD, CT

Present:	Mrs. Tammy McInerney, Chairperson Mrs. Sarah Herring Mr. Brian McCauley Mrs. Leslie Sarich
Also Present:	Dr. Janet Parlato, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Holly Hollander, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Raymond Manka, Principal NMHS Dr. Meg Dwyer, Assistant Principal NMHS
Absent:	

1.	Call to Order The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Committee on Learning was called to order at 7:32 pm by Mrs. McInerney.	Call to Order
2.	Public Comment None	Public Comment None
3.	<p>Items for Discussion and Approval</p> <p>A. Curriculum</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CP Children's Literature 2. Honors Children's Literature 3. Accelerated Math <p>Ms. Hollander began her presentation with the curriculum for accelerated 6th grade math. The district looked at clear expectations and criteria to ensure important math concepts are not being overlooked. The plan gives students multiple pathways to be accelerated. Ms. Hollander stated she wants accelerated 6th grade to cover 6th and ½ of 7th grade standards. The following year will cover the other ½ of 7th and all of 8th grade standards, leading to 9th grade math being taken in 8th grade.</p> <p>Ms. Hollander stated the district will use i-Ready and SBAC data points to determine eligibility. Mrs. McInerney asked what happens if parents are adamant about moving their child to a higher level. Ms. Hollander stated that there are multiple pathways to get to accelerated Math, and if it does not happen in 6th grade, it can happen later. Mrs. Herring asked how</p>	<p>Items for Discussion and Approval</p> <p>Curriculum</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CP Children's Literature 2. Honors Children's Literature 3. Accelerated Math

<p>4.</p>	<p>many classes there will be. Ms. Hollander stated there are two, with reasonable class sizes and they are writing 7th grade curriculum this year. Mrs. Herring suggested following teacher-created materials rather than a purchased program.</p> <p>Ms. Hollander stated the revisions to the Children's Literature curriculum have created an interesting course for students to select.</p> <p><i>Mrs. McInerney moved to bring the following Curricula for the full board for final approval, seconded by Mr. McCauley and passed unanimously.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. CP Children's Literature2. Honors Children's Literature3. Accelerated Math <p>Items of Information</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">A. Summer SchoolB. Teacher EvaluationC. Early College Experiences Dual Enrollment <p>Ms Hollander stated that for Summer School, NMHS credit recovery is a 14 day program offered to high school students who had a 58%-64% final grade during the school year. The program offered morning core classes. Transportation was provided without a fee. Mrs. McInerney stated the cost for running free transportation should be noted to Operations. Ms. Hollander stated the program had 24 students participate and 100% earned their necessary credits.</p> <p>Ms. Hollander stated Summer Learning Lab had 6 classes with 10-16 students per class. Before Summer Learning Lab, 0% of students passed final assessment and after Summer Learning Lab, 52% of students passed final assessment. Ms. Hollander stated it was a very successful summer offering.</p> <p>Ms. Hollander stated there is new legislation for teacher evaluation, and the new evaluation plan will be done with a professional development committee. Ms. Hollander will be attending a meeting next week to get a big picture overview of the new evaluation requirements.</p>	<p>Motion made and passed unanimously for the full board to review the following curricula:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. CP Children's Literature2. Honors Children's Literature3. Accelerated Math
-----------	--	---

**New Milford Board of Education
Committee on Learning Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2023**

Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

Dr. Dwyer stated the Early College Experience Dual Enrollment (ECE) program goes hand in hand with pathways programming. It is about looking at making higher education more accessible. Mr. Manka stated dual enrollment provides a partnership with institutes of higher education to offer a variety of courses and will weave into the new pathways. Dr. Dwyer stated the district is looking at what steps are needed to create a dual credit program. New Milford applied and received a grant to help expand opportunities for students by allowing partnerships with institutions of higher education.

Dr. Dwyer stated that by partnering with certain schools, students will have access to additional college coursework. Mrs. McInerney asked if students are actually taking a college syllabi class. Dr. Dwyer stated yes and those classes can have an end of year project vs. a heavily weighted test. The ultimate goal is for the course to be worth college credits that are transferable. Mrs. Herring asked why a school would offer something like this if it means the student does not have to pay to take the course at the institution. Dr. Dwyer stated a university does it in hopes the student will go to that university.

Mr. Manka stated they are working on doing 1-2 courses in STEM, fine arts, business and humanities. It will happen over two calendar years and the funds from the grant will be utilized to make sure staff gets certified by the universities to teach the courses. The recruiting process will start with interested staff to become adjunct professors, all while being folded in with the district's Vision of a Graduate.

Ms. Hollander stated this is very forward thinking and wants to make sure the public is aware of the endeavor. Dr. Parlato stated it is tremendous work being done.

Mrs. McInerney asked for students navigating college, when Naviance will begin to be utilized in high school. Dr. Dwyer stated they are going to a conference to help address that, and moving in a direction with those goals in mind. Mrs. McInerney stated being able to see GPA in Powerschool is a motivator for students. Mr. Manka stated there are no plans to show GPA. Dr. Dwyer stated it was not an

**New Milford Board of Education
Committee on Learning Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2023**

Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

Page 4

	accurate representation and counselors have the most accurate GPAs. Mrs. McInerney asked if there is a way to capture a student's current GPA and note them on their report card. Dr. Dwyer stated cumulative GPA is always end-of-year. Mr. Manka stated it would need to be looked into. Mrs. Sarich suggested doing a Naviance workshop for parents and students. Dr. Dwyer stated the team is looking into something like that. Mrs. McInerney requested that both a Naviance and GPA followup discussion be added to an upcoming COL meeting agenda.	
4.	Public Comment None	Public Comment None
5.	Adjourn <i>Mrs. Sarich moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. McCauley with all voting in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.</i>	Adjourn The meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.

Respectfully submitted:



Tammy McInerney, Chairperson
Committee on Learning