

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 21, 2023**

The September 21, 2023, Curriculum Committee meeting was called to order by Dr. Calnen at 5:03 PM.

Present: Amanda Pickett (arrived at 5:05 PM), Dr. Gerald Calnen and Jean Acree
Also Present: Michelle Middleton, Adrienne Snow, Deborah Gaskell, Board Members Janet Cushman & Josh Hamre
Audience: None

Book Approval Process:

Mrs. Gaskell and Ms. Snow presented the Book Approval Processes to committee members. Mrs. Gaskell explained that EPS Board of Education policy #6160 Selection of Educational Resources is the foundation for all the book approval processes. This is meant to be a collaborative process. The processes are intended to promote positive instructional outcomes for all students. Mrs. Gaskell explained that principals, coordinators, and teachers are aware of the processes. She reviewed policy #6160 with the committee. She also explained the Resource Screening Guide that was developed by Mrs. Gaskell and Ms. Snow. It is a tool that is a workable document and helps teachers make sense of the policy when they are reviewing books for use.

A committee member asked how we ensure the principles found in the policy are calibrated. It was explained that it is a collaborative process and that grade level teachers work together to look at resources, so they are discussing materials at their appropriate levels.

Ms. Snow then reviewed the Library Collection Development document. She reviewed the philosophy, selection responsibility, criteria for selection, gifts, school library collection maintenance, and reconsideration of material, which references EPS Board of Education policy #6161.12 Challenges to the Use of Educational Resources. Mrs. Gaskell then explained the Whole Group/Small Group and Book Club Approval Process. She reviewed the vision, some definitions, student/parent requests for alternate titles, new orders, maintenance, and reconsideration of materials. Teachers work with same grade-level teachers to discuss titles. Title suggestions often come from teachers. The final two processes presented to the committee were the Guidelines for Classroom Libraries - one for 6-12 teachers and one for K-5 teachers. Both documents contain a rationale and information on selection and maintenance, as well as ordering.

A committee member asked about our deselection process. Looking at the relevance of older texts was discussed. Committee members thanked Mrs. Gaskell and Ms. Snow for their explanations of the processes.

Items from the Table:

Ms. Middleton shared answers to a couple of questions that Mrs. Cushman had asked regarding the 6-8 Health curriculum during a meeting held this summer.

Mrs. Pickett asked about iReady Reading. Ms. Middleton explained that it has been replaced by EasyCBM. This will be communicated to elementary parents in the coming weeks.

Mrs. Pickett will investigate moving the TAG conversation forward. Some policy questions may need to be answered first.

The next curriculum meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 5:00 PM.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Middleton
Chief Academic Officer