

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MINUTES
JUNE 15, 2022**

The June 15, 2022, Curriculum Committee meeting was called to order by Amanda Pickett at 4:59 PM.

Present: Amanda Pickett, Dr. Gerald Calnen and Jean Acree

Absent: None

Also Present: Michelle Middleton, Andrew Berrios, Kerry Wiley and Board Member Joshua Hamre

Audience: None

TAG Update:

Dr. Berrios informed committee members of the steps that he has taken since the last time the committee discussed the Talented and Gifted Program. As was suggested by committee members, he created a survey and reached out to twelve local middle school principals. Questions on the survey included gathering information on whether schools had an enrichment program or a Talented and Gifted Program, student enrollment, information about the selection process, and model of delivery. Of the twelve schools sent the survey, only three responded. Of those three, only two schools currently have any type of TAG program. Dr. Berrios suggested to the committee that the survey may need to be revised a bit and then sent out to more districts, not just ones that are close to Enfield.

Committee members discussed that “casting a wider net” makes sense to get more information for us to reference when discussing what changes can and/or should be made to the program. The committee also discussed enrichment versus talented and gifted and what the true vision is behind the endowment. It was decided that getting specific definitions of talented and gifted, as well as look at wording that can help define the true intent of the endowment and the resulting program would be helpful to guide our work.

Committee members also discussed the importance of creating a vision and outlining action steps for our work on these revisions during the 2022-2023 school year. It was decided that Dr. Berrios will make some revisions to the survey and send it out to more districts. Mrs. Pickett offered to contact a colleague to provide him with resources to assist with this work. At the September curriculum meeting, Dr. Berrios will give an update and the committee will create an action plan for this work.

Exploring Restrictions on Student Devices:

Dr. Wiley provided an update to committee members regarding the safeguards we already have in place for student iPads, as well as additional steps being explored. Apple has made an update to their product that will allow us to lock students’ EPS Apple IDs. This will ensure that all security measures we have put in place are there, even when the students are home. Previously, we could not lock the Apple IDs and when students logged out of their EPS Apple IDs and into their personal ones, their personal content followed them, and our web filtering was not as effective.

A question previously asked by committee members was why the default settings were set to explicit. The answer is that the default settings shown do not reflect the actual filters that are in place and even though it shows that as the default setting on the screen, the EPS safeguards that

are in place override the listed default settings. We work directly with the Town IT department to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). CIPA states that all districts must block pictures, searches, and content that is explicit. We also must safeguard students' electronic communications. An example of this is that students will only receive email within our organization or other approved instructional resources, for example Naviance. All EPS devices use a web filtering service called Securly. Some of the safeguards this service has in place are it restricts image searches to Creative Commons; it blocks categories that contain adult content, social media, hate, games, and drugs; and it blocks social networking domains. We are still exploring ways to increase filtering of YouTube on our devices, although the filtering listed previously also applies to YouTube. We use Mosyle Manager to manage our EPS iPads. Mosyle Manager assists in the locking of Apple IDs and only allowing access to apps that have been placed in the Mosyle Manager App by EPS. Mosyle Manager also helps with the following restrictions: no iMessage, no Facetime, no explicit content in the iBook store, no Game Center, and no iTunes.

Students will be taking home their iPads for the summer. A summer letter explaining this and outlining best practices for use will be send home the last week of school.

Additional Course Code in the EHS Program of Studies:

Ms. Middleton explained that although we added to mandatory M (mastery-based diploma assessment) credit to the Program of Studies and our EPS Board Policy #6146 Graduation Requirements a few years ago when the new graduation requirements were released by the State, we neglected to add a course code into PowerSchool for the recording of the credit. As such, the Mastery Based Assessment Diploma Credit has been coded 5003 and added to PowerSchool for recording of the credit. This credit is a graduation requirement for students beginning with the graduating class of 2023.

Committee members approved this addition.

Items from the Table:

Committee members asked if we could explore the possibility of exemption from exams as was brought up at the June 14, 2022 Board of Education meeting by an EHS student. Committee members will meet with a team from EHS to discuss procedures and policies that are in place and if any revisions can be made to accommodate such a request. We would want to look at what other schools in Connecticut do as well.

The next Curriculum meeting will be held in September 2022.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Middleton
Chief Academic Officer