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2021 MAY - 6 P 12:56

NEW MILFORD, CT

Present:	Mrs. Tammy McInerney, Chairperson Mr. Joseph Failla Mr. Brian McCauley
Also Present:	Ms. Alisha DiCorpo, Superintendent of Schools Mrs. Catherine Calabrese, Interim Assistant Superintendent Ms. Linda Scoralick, NMHS Assistant Principal Mrs. Cortni Muir, Math Coach Ms. Lisa Morlock, Literacy Coach

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	revolve around a central career or subject area theme, while preparing students for the real world. This is education with a purpose. • Ms. Scoralick said the goal is to increase relevance and lead to more student engagement and to help students make more informed decisions about their post-secondary path. This should lead to a better career fit, lower college expenses and debt, a smoother transition to adult life, and a more productive and effective workforce. • Ms. Scoralick said pathway development is in the explorer phase and they are in the process of building awareness while implementing over the next few years. • Mrs. Failla said he has been vocal over the years that college is not for everyone. He is a huge advocate for “other than college” choices. There are well-paying jobs out there. • Ms. DiCorpo said they have been working on this for a long time. They have been hearing from the community that they want this, but a plan and budget are necessary to back it up. Ms. Scoralick is looking at where we can start based on what we already have in place for courses and personnel. There is lots of community buy in and excitement for the future. • Mrs. McNerney said she really enjoyed the discussion. She loves the idea of high school exploration of pathways and would like to see it expanded to the arts as well.	
B.	Summer Programming 1. Summer Bridge for Incoming 3rd-5th graders • Mrs. Calabrese said the district has run this program in the past, funded through Title I. It is offered to ensure that all students have adequate opportunities to meet the district’s rigorous academic standards in reading and math. Students’ social and emotional learning	B. Summer Programming 1. Summer Bridge for Incoming 3rd-5th graders 2. Summer Bridge for Incoming 6th graders 3. Algebra Readiness 4. Summer Bridge for Incoming Freshmen 5. Credit Recovery Program for 9th-12th graders

will be aligned into the program as well. Students invited are in the 20th-50th percentile. Teacher recommendations and student grades are also taken into account.

2. Summer Bridge for Incoming 6th graders

- Mrs. Calabrese said this is a new program, similar to the one for Incoming 3rd-5th graders, that will be funded by Title I. It is designed to help students transition successfully from intermediate to middle school in the areas of literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional learning. Invites will be based on standards similar to the intermediate program.
- Mrs. McInerney asked if students will need to qualify in all areas of need. Mrs. Calabrese said yes, they are looking at numbers in conjunction with the number of teachers and available funding.

3. Algebra Readiness

- Mrs. Calabrese said this program exposes students to critical units of the pre-algebra curriculum in order to ensure preparation for potential entrance into algebra in 8th grade this coming fall. Students must pass a test at the end of the week for consideration.
- Ms. DiCorpo said this is budgeted out of the Department of Instruction. Normally it runs two weeks, but there was a lack of interest this year.
- Mrs. McInerney asked where students are placed if they do not pass the test. Mrs. Calabrese said pre-algebra, which is typical for 8th grade.

4. Summer Bridge for Incoming Freshmen

- Mrs. Calabrese said this is a new program for incoming freshmen, designed to help students transition successfully from middle to high

	school in the areas of literacy, numeracy and social-emotional learning. • Ms. DiCorpo said funding is in next year's operating budget that is waiting for approval. 5. Credit Recovery Program for 9th-12th graders • Mrs. Calabrese said this is a newly budgeted program also. It will allow students the opportunity to recover credits lost due to failing grades. There is no cost to the student. Previously students wishing to recover credits needed to attend a program in Brookfield and pay tuition.	
C. Jumpstart (ESSER II)	• Mrs. Calabrese said this new program was written as part of the ESSER II funding application. It will be offered at HPS and NES to incoming 1st and 2nd graders so that they can work on skills. Two teachers and two paracaducators are planned for each site. • Ms. DiCorpo thanked Mrs. Calabrese, the coaches, and building administrators for all their hard work with these programs and ESSER funding needs. They are making an effort to help as many students as possible and to build on what we have. They are fortunate to be able to fill positions; that is not true everywhere.	C. Jumpstart (ESSER II)
D. Summer Passport/Calendars	• Mrs. Muir, Math coach, said she was pleased that the summer math passport was back. This math themed adventure for students incoming 1st through 5th grades includes a real-world connection with our local community partners. Summer math calendars are also available for grades K-8.	D. Summer Passport/Calendars

	• Mrs. McInerney asked about students who might not have transportation to visit the different sites. Ms. DiCorpo said this was worked out previously by having the coaches stamp their passports on return to school. Mrs. Muir said the calendar is also an option. E. Summer Reading Programs 1. NMHS Summer Reading • Mrs. Calabrese said the high school is using a digital format for summer reading. Students will have over 40 books to choose from including print and digital options. The New Milford Public Library has partnered with NMHS to help supply and promote the books. Students then choose one of ten different assignments to complete. Summer reading is not required but students receive five extra points in their first semester class as an incentive. • Mr. Failla asked if participation has been tracked previously. Ms. DiCorpo said she would check. • Ms. Morlock, Literacy coach, talked about the summer reading options for K-8. The district will be participating in the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge. At the K-2 level there is also Summer Bingo. Grades 3-5 have a Summer Reading Choice Board. Grades 6-8 have Tic-Tac-Toe Summer Reading. All programs are designed to motivate, encourage and build reading stamina through a variety of activities and choices. They want to promote literacy in a different light and not bind students to a particular book. • Mrs. McInerney asked if any incentive is provided at the 6-8 level, since the program is voluntary. Ms. Morlock said they are trying to limit and avoid the "assignment" idea and instead promote an enjoyment of literacy in its different forms.	E. Summer Reading Programs 1. NMHS Summer Reading
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New Milford Board of Education
Committee on Learning Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2021
Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center

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4.	Public Comment • Betsy Stewart, on behalf of the other coaches, thanked the coaches for all their hard work.	Public Comment
5.	Adjourn Mr. McCauley moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. seconded by Mr. Failla and passed unanimously.	Adjourn Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Tammy McInerney, Chairperson
Committee on Learning