

**New Milford Board of Education
Committee on Learning Minutes
October 2, 2018
Lillis Administration Building, Room 2**

Present: Mrs. Tammy McInerney, Chairperson
Mr. J.T. Schemm
Mr. Brian McCauley, Alternate

Absent: Mr. Bill Dahl
Mr. Joseph Failla

Also Present: Dr. Stephen Tracy, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Alisha DiCorpo, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Human Resources Director
Mr. Eric Williams, Assistant Principal, New Milford High School
Mrs. Alicia Daley, Art teacher, New Milford High School
Mr. James Wilson, Technology Education teacher, New Milford High School

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NEW MILFORD, CT

1.	Call to Order The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Committee on Learning was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mrs. McInerney. Mr. McCauley was seated in the absence of Mr. Dahl.	Call to Order
2.	Public Comment • There was none.	Public Comment
3.	Discussion and Possible Action A. Review and Approval of Curriculum 1. Digital Photography • Ms. DiCorpo said Mrs. Daley and Mr. Wilson cowrote the Digital Photography curriculum. It is a new course started as a result of interest in new classes expressed in a student survey. • Mrs. Daley said it is half credit, half year course, open to grades 9-12. Students are not required to own a digital camera. They have a few for student use but most use their smart phones.	Discussion and Possible Action A. Review and Approval of Curriculum 1. Digital Photography

	• Mrs. McInerney asked if the phones allow as much adjustment as a digital camera would. Mrs. Daley said the phones have basic controls and there are several apps that supplement. The students also begin using Photoshop. • Mr. Wilson said Photoshop is a well-known product so it is intuitive for many students. He said they are creating digitally knowledgeable students and talking about career paths. He said the students also use their knowledge for other school assignments. • Mr. Schemm said he was happy to see the student survey used. He asked about enrollment. Mrs. Daley said there are three sections of 22 students, which is the maximum computers they have. Guidance told her over 200 students wanted to enroll in the class. • Mr. Schemm asked if the class was housed in the Art department and Mrs. Daley said it is, along with Graphic Design. Ms. DiCorpo said that had to do with teacher certification as well. • Mr. Schemm suggested cross linking be considered with Technology, possibly to open up funding streams. Mr. Williams said he could look into it. • Mrs. Daley said they currently combine with Video Production and Woodshop on some projects. • Mr. Wilson said he offers an after-school club with drones and is hoping for a Robotics course next year. • Ms. DiCorpo said Robotics is part of the Grade 8 PLTW curriculum and they are hoping to build interest in the area for high school. Mr. McCauley moved to bring the curriculum for Digital Photography to the full Board for approval, seconded by Mr. Schemm and passed unanimously. 2. Graphic Design • Ms. DiCorpo said the former Cut, Paste and Copy (CPC) class has been revamped into Graphic Design, with more of an emphasis on 21st century skills. It is now one credit and the vocational component has been dropped.	Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the curriculum for Digital Photography to the full Board for approval. 2. Graphic Design
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	• Mrs. Daley said there is a career component in that students use the skills they are learning to create a self-promotional portfolio. There is a business segment to the course too that is still called Cut, Paste and Copy. • Mr. Schemm asked what grade level can take the class. Mrs. Daley said grades 11 and 12. They suggest Advertising Art and/or Digital Photography as precursors. • Mrs. McInerney asked about enrollment. Mrs. Daley said it is a full year class and she has 11 students. They are hoping that the popularity of Digital Photography will begin to feed the program down the line. • Mr. Schemm said he would encourage Mrs. Daley to use the CPC alumni as a resource. She said the class is offered first block so the early morning hour factors into that. • Mr. Schemm said he was aware that singleton classes such as this are sometimes difficult to fit into the master schedule and can create hard choices for student schedules. Ms. DiCorpo said they are hopeful the new pathways will help in this area. Mrs. McInerney moved to bring the curriculum for Graphic Design to the full Board for approval, seconded by Mr. McCauley and passed unanimously.	Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the curriculum for Graphic Design to the full Board for approval.
4.	Item of Information A. Fall Curriculum/Curriculum Update • Ms. DiCorpo presented on Fall 2018 curriculum writing. She said the following were offered and accepted by teachers for writing: General Music Grades 6-8, Advanced Creative Writing, World Literature and Culture, Algebra II College Prep, Algebra II Honors, Geometry Honors, AP German, Allied Health Careers, Sports Medicine, and Health I. • Training was offered for three days, with impact to schedules minimized.	Item of Information A. Fall Curriculum/Curriculum Update

	• Curriculum is due November 16, then will be vetted before being presented for approval beginning in February. Ms. DiCorpo said she will group the courses brought to COL by subject. • Spring curriculum is due in April. It is being prioritized from the five-year curriculum plan. Additional postings will be offered in the summer. • The Curriculum Council is looking at its next steps and will assemble vertical teams to make recommendations and support vertical articulation/progression of standards. • In the Instruction area, TEAM mentors, instructional coaches and department chairs have received training through ReVision Learning on how to provide specific feedback related to practice. Groups have spent time in classrooms in order to practice gathering data and to provide feedback to teachers. • Mr. Schemm said it was great to see staff stepping forward in this area, even during the busy school year. • Dr. Tracy thanked Ms. DiCorpo for all her work in the area of curriculum, praising her organization and the consistency of the program.	
5.	Public Comment • There was none.	Public Comment
6.	Adjourn Mr. McCauley moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m., seconded by Mr. Schemm and passed unanimously.	Adjourn Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Tammy McInerney, Chairperson
Committee on Learning