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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 7:33 p.m. by Mrs. McInerney.	Call to Order
2.	Public Comment • There was none.	Public Comment
3.	Discussion • Mrs. McInerney said curriculum review was complete for the year. Tonight, Ms. DiCorpo will give an overview of the curriculum writing plan going forward. A. Curriculum Writing Plan 2017 • Ms. DiCorpo talked about how the plan will impact curriculum writing this summer. It is a result of feedback from the Curriculum Committee, which was formed last year, and from teachers regarding the need for a document that will be a helpful organizer for developing effective unit plans inclusive of both formative and summative assessments. • The new template begins with the end in mind, building the unit plan backwards from the goal of understanding. • There are three stages of development. Stage 1	Discussion A. Curriculum Writing Plan 2017

	focuses on desired results and key understandings. To “understand” has two general connotations: applying understanding, knowledge, and skill effectively in new situations which results in successful transfer; and making inferences and grasping connections, to culminate in understanding. Stage 2 focuses on evidence, both evaluative criteria and assessment evidence, as well as performance tasks, formative and summative assessments. Stage 3 is the actual learning plan, the summary of key learning events and instruction. • Ms. DiCorpo summarized how the new plan is different from the old one. Stage 1 includes the addition of transfer standards and established goals now include habits of mind, 21st century skills and cross content standards. In Stage 2, the only assessment noted is in the performance task and it now requires evaluation criteria to determine if Stage 1 results were achieved. Stage 3 now requires pre and post assessments. • The training plan includes a full day of professional development on June 15 where facilitators will be trained with help from SERC consultants to guide the work of the standards by subject area, and ensure integration of CT core standards cross content. These facilitators will be a resource for the curriculum writers who will be trained on June 26-28. Ms. DiCorpo distributed draft agendas for the training days. • Mr. Schemm said he appreciated the breakdown of morning training followed by actual writing time each day. It provides an opportunity to put the training to use right away and identify any questions. • Ms. DiCorpo said there are 33 curriculum to be written this summer in the areas of PE, Health, Art, History, Science and English. • Mrs. McNerney asked if teachers are paid extra to write curriculum. Ms. DiCorpo said they are and the rate is determined by contract. • Mrs. McNerney asked if teachers apply to write curriculum and Ms. DiCorpo said they do. The curriculum available is posted and they determine	
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	the best matches from those who apply. • Mrs. McInerney asked if the curriculums were new or revisions. Ms. DiCorpo said it was a mixture. PE and Health, for example, have so many changes that they will be considered new. • Mr. Lawson asked if the plan was to implement these in August. Ms. DiCorpo said yes and that, in the past, they had begun as pilots until actual Board approval. • Mr. Lawson asked if the Advanced Placement courses on the list were revisions or writing since they are developed from the College Board. Ms. DiCorpo said they will be revised in conjunction with College Board. In the case of AP Human Geography and AP Environmental Science, teachers will attend AP training at Taft before writing since these are new courses for New Milford. • Mr. Schemm asked about Intro to Engineering Design which was on the list. He said that curriculum had not been written in the past since the course must follow PLTW guides and there were copyright issues and asked what had changed. Ms. DiCorpo said the teacher who teaches the course signed up for curriculum writing and they may find that is still the case as they move through the process. At the very least, there is a need to make sure the Board has copies of the course guides for approval and the principals for evaluation. • Mr. Schemm mentioned the significant time required of AP teachers to write the required audit for College Board and asked if there was a vehicle for that. Mr. Smith said the afternoon professional development allows for some assessment and pacing guide work so there was some time for calibration and conversation at least there. • Mr. Schemm mentioned the static nature of our curriculums now and asked if there was any thought to making them more “living” documents. Ms. DiCorpo said the Curriculum Committee and administration is in talks with a few different companies at the moment about that topic, including how to ensure assessment data informs	
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	the work. Mr. Lawson left the meeting at 8:00 p.m. • Mr. Dahl asked how the Curriculum Committee was doing as its inaugural year comes to a close. Ms. DiCorpo said she thought it was going very well. She said the committee appreciates the ability to have conversations about curriculum and to create consistency with the template for all levels. • Mr. Schemm asked how the template would align with NEASC standards going forward. Ms. DiCorpo said she hopes it will be a natural fit with the work to come.	
4.	Public Comment • There was none.	Public Comment
5.	Adjourn Mr. Dahl moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. seconded by Mr. Schemm and passed unanimously.	Adjourn Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Tammy McInerney, Chairperson
Committee on Learning