

**New Milford Board of Education  
 Committee on Learning Minutes  
 March 3, 2020  
 Lillis Administration Building, Room 2**

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NEW MILFORD, CT

Present: Mr. Joseph Failla, Chairperson  
 Mr. Brian McCauley  
 Mrs. Tammy McInerney  
 Mrs. Cynthia Nabozny

Also Present: Ms. Alisha DiCorpo, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

1.	<p><b>Call to Order</b></p> <p>The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Committee on Learning was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Mr. Failla.</p>	<p><b>Call to Order</b></p>
2.	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was none.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>
3.	<p><b>Discussion and Possible Action</b></p> <p><b>A. Review and Approval of Curricula</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Accounting I</li> <li>2. AP Psychology</li> <li>3. Child Development</li> <li>4. Children's Lit CP</li> <li>5. Children's Lit Honors</li> <li>6. Design Foundations I</li> <li>7. Design Foundations II</li> <li>8. German III CP</li> <li>9. German III Honors</li> <li>10. Intellectual History</li> <li>11. Personal Finance II</li> <li>12. SAT Reading &amp; Writing</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Failla said he would list each curriculum in order by name so that committee members would have a chance to ask questions and make comments.</li> <li>• Mrs. McInerney said she loves the format of each. She appreciates the overview, the general summary and the pacing guide. She questioned why the pacing guides sometimes</li> </ul>	<p><b>Discussion and Possible Action</b></p> <p><b>A. Review and Approval of Curricula</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Accounting I</li> <li>2. AP Psychology</li> <li>3. Child Development</li> <li>4. Children's Lit CP</li> <li>5. Children's Lit Honors</li> <li>6. Design Foundations I</li> <li>7. Design Foundations II</li> <li>8. German III CP</li> <li>9. German III Honors</li> <li>10. Intellectual History</li> <li>11. Personal Finance II</li> <li>12. SAT Reading &amp; Writing</li> </ol>

refer to weeks, class periods and blocks in some cases. Ms. DiCorpo said that helps capture the reality of teaching the course and informs teacher planning.

- Mr. McCauley noted that not all the curricula include a list of books/texts used. Ms. DiCorpo said resources are listed, but the books and texts used change frequently, and with curriculum only reviewed every five years, not listing them allows more flexibility. In addition, if they are requesting a new text, that comes to the Board after the curriculum is approved.
- Mrs. McInerney said she does see books listed in the English courses. Ms. DiCorpo said that is done intentionally so as to avoid overlap among courses within that area of study.
- Regarding Child Development, Mr. Failla said he appreciates the hands-on nature of this course. Ms. DiCorpo said the course works towards the Tiny Tides preschool program.
- Mrs. McInerney noted that the two Children's Lit courses tie into that pathway as well. Ms. DiCorpo said high school students in these courses prepare and read a children's book to HPS second graders as part of their study.
- Mrs. McInerney said she thinks the Design Foundations courses are very exciting as part of the Arts pathway. She said she can see college level skills here.
- Mr. Failla noted the level of work required and the tight time schedule for projects.
- Mr. Failla asked how many levels of German are offered. Ms. DiCorpo said there are five, with some levels taught together due to enrollment numbers. This is also the practice with other languages where enrollment numbers are low in some levels. This enables students to finish the pathway if they wish. She said that German 3 CP and Honors, for example, are taught as one combined class of fifteen students. She said this is a new curriculum that is directly aligned to new standards.

- Mr. Failla said he thinks Intellectual History is a fascinating course and speaks to the type of courses offered in district. He asked what the enrollment is. Ms. DiCorpo said there is one section of 21 students currently.
- Mrs. McInerney asked for confirmation that it is Honors level only. Ms. DiCorpo said that is correct, due to the rigor of the course.
- Mrs. Nabozny said she always appreciated that the Program of Studies provided a description of every course so parents could see what is offered beyond what their students chose. Ms. DiCorpo said the Program of Studies echoes the descriptions used in the curriculum.
- Mr. Failla said he appreciated the economics piece in Personal Finance II and said he wished there was more of it.
- Mr. McCauley noted that it was a new requirement in many schools to offer personal finance.
- Ms. DiCorpo said this course delves into in depth personal finance topics and projects are highly developed. She said the plan is to eventually add a state level competition to this course.
- Ms. DiCorpo said the SAT Reading and Writing curriculum had been part of the Five Year Plan and was written and vetted before budget this year. She said this version can inform the structure of the after school program and should adapt well.

Mr. McCauley moved to bring the following curricula to the full Board for approval:

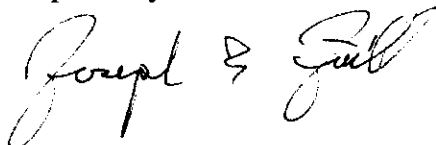
1. Accounting I
2. AP Psychology
3. Child Development
4. Children's Lit CP
5. Children's Lit Honors
6. Design Foundations I
7. Design Foundations II
8. German III CP
9. German III Honors

**Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the following curricula to the full Board for approval:**

- 1. Accounting I**
- 2. AP Psychology**
- 3. Child Development**
- 4. Children's Lit CP**
- 5. Children's Lit Honors**
- 6. Design Foundations I**
- 7. Design Foundations II**

	10. Intellectual History 11. Personal Finance II 12. SAT Reading & Writing  Seconded by Mrs. McInerney and passed unanimously.	<b>8. German III CP</b> <b>9. German III Honors</b> <b>10. Intellectual History</b> <b>11. Personal Finance II</b> <b>12. SAT Reading &amp; Writing</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Public Comment</b>  • There was none.	<b>Public Comment</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>  Mr. McCauley moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m., seconded by Mrs. McInerney and passed unanimously.	<b>Adjourn</b>  <b>Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m.</b>

Respectfully submitted:



Joseph Failla, Chairperson  
Committee on Learning