

**New Milford Board of Education
 Committee on Learning Meeting Minutes
 March 2, 2021
 Sarah Noble Intermediate School Library Media Center**

Present:	Mrs. Tammy McInerney, Chairperson Mr. Joseph Failla (via Zoom) Mr. Brian McCauley Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach
Also Present:	Ms. Alisha DiCorpo, Superintendent of Schools (via Zoom) Mrs. Catherine Calabrese, Interim Assistant Superintendent Mr. Brandon Rush, Technology Director Ms. Christy Martin, Adult Education Facilitator

1.	<p>Call to Order</p> <p>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 as an alternate in the absence of Mrs. Rella. Mrs. Faulenbach was seated due to a vacancy. Mrs. McInerney said the meeting was closed captioned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Calabrese asked if Item of Information 4A could be moved up in the agenda to accommodate Ms. Martin's attendance. 	<p>Call to Order</p> <p>RECEIVED TOWN CLERK 2021 MAR -4 A 8:02</p> <p>NEW MILFORD, CT</p>
2.	<p>Public Comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was none. 	<p>Public Comment</p>
4.	<p>Item of Information</p> <p>A. Policy 6200 Adult Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Calabrese said she and Christy Martin, Adult Education Facilitator, are present to share the proposal to increase the 2021-2022 Adult Education graduation requirements. A 25 credit requirement is not yet in the statute but it will be in 2022-2023 and it will also be the NMHS graduation requirement at that time too. In the meantime, the Connecticut State Department of Education recommends that there be an incremental increase in credits. Ms. Martin gave a brief overview of the Adult Education program. A new State and Federal reporting system has been implemented this 	<p>Item of Information</p> <p>A. Policy 6200 Adult Education</p>

	<p>year. The Adult Ed program is now part of the Literacy Pro System (LACES) which is tied in to the National Reporting System (NRS).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● With the help of Federal PEP grant and COVID Care funds all mandated students (high school and ESL) have access to Chromebooks both in and out of school.● By eliminating enrichment, and with the lower enrollment which COVID has caused, the program has been able to provide in person education to all mandated students.● Seven students completed graduation requirements in January with at least twelve more on track for a June completion.● Ms. Martin said that COVID has forced us to be creative in how we continue the CCR hands-on programs we have done in the past. To continue to meet our students' needs and maintain the standards, we have added to our Virtual High School offerings: Vet Tech 1 and 2 (currently have 1 student in Vet Tech 1, maintaining an A average) and Allied Health (currently have 1 student in Allied Health, maintaining an A average). While they are not getting the hands-on contact, they are getting the knowledge to keep them moving forward in their career paths.● In addition to increasing guidance to four nights to be available to all students, our counselor, Joe Neff, has created a Google Classroom guidance repository that we will use long after COVID is a memory. A work in progress, it holds information for our students from job search skills to filling out the FAFSA forms. Students can access this content 24/7 and leave messages, ask questions and seek help.● Changing the way we operate to provide smaller cohorts has allowed us to pilot an opportunity for students to add a 5th credit to their schedule and give staff the ability to choose different teaching schedules to accommodate the increased pressures of teaching day and night. Students, by meeting daily for two hours each day for one month, got to read a novel and experience John Steinbeck	
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	<p>in ways that they never could have meeting once or twice a week for two hours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Through our collaboration with the Northwest Adult Ed programs and the Workforce Investment Bureau, we are participating in the Reinvent Adult Ed challenge and have made the cut to stage 2. Finalists will develop pre-apprenticeship program proposals and compete for funding prizes. ● Regarding graduation requirements, Ms. Martin is recommending that a diploma candidate must accumulate the following: English 4.0 credits Science 3.5 credits (0.5 is the addition) Math 3.5 credits (0.5 is the addition) Social Studies* 3.0 credits (must include at least 1 credit of U.S. History and 0.5 of Civics) Voc Art 1.0 credit Electives** 9.0 credits (must be 0.25 credits of Orientation to Adult Ed. & 0.25 credit of Portfolio) ● Mrs. McInerney asked what Portfolio consists of. Ms. Martin said it is the bookend to orientation where they begin with career pathways. In Portfolio, students prepare their cover letter and resume to move forward into the workforce. ● Mrs. McInerney said she had enjoyed attending Adult Ed graduation in the past and asked what the plan is for this year. Ms. Martin said it is not set yet but she would make sure the Board is informed as plans are firmed up. ● Mrs. Calabrese thanked Ms. Martin and the Adult Ed staff for their hard work to make better citizens and a better community. 	
<p>3.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>Review and Approval of Curricula</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to Video Productions 2. Kindergarten General Music 3. Grade 1 General Music 4. Grade 2 General Music 5. Grade 3 General Music 6. Health Grade 1 7. Health Grade 2 	<p>Discussion and Possible Action</p> <p>A. Review and Approval of Curricula</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to Video Productions 2. Kindergarten General Music 3. Grade 1 General Music 4. Grade 2 General Music 5. Grade 3 General Music

	<p>8. Health Grade 3 9. Health Grade 4 10. Health Grade 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mrs. Calabrese gave brief highlights of each of the different curriculums. ● Regarding Video Productions, Mrs. Calabrese noted that the recommended resources are the same at the end of each unit. She said they should be labeled Recommended Professional Resources and placed once at the end. Those corrections will be made. ● Mr. McCauley asked about course enrollment. Mrs. Calabrese said she did not have enrollment figures, but two sections are offered. ● Mrs. Calabrese said General Music K-2 curriculums provide the first sequence of music fundamentals, using National Core Arts Standards. It uses repetition to build forward from level to level. ● Mrs. McInerney noted how much she misses attending the live performances and seeing the student growth. ● Grade 3 General Music develops and expands the students' musical knowledge and adds the first use of an instrument, the recorder. ● Health 1 covers the components of the Safer Smarter Kids program with developmentally appropriate lessons on personal safety. ● Mrs. Faulenbach noted that these curricula are all revisions and she asked when they were last presented. ● Ms. DiCorpo said they are on time with their five-year review. ● Mrs. Calabrese said Health 2 focuses on age appropriate conflict resolution and stress management as well as positive interactions between students. ● Health 3-5 continues the exploration of what it means to be socially, emotionally and physically healthy. One unit on Cyber Safety that was previously included was moved to the LMC curriculum, freeing up the pacing calendar for other units. ● Mrs. Faulenbach said a Cyber Contract is mentioned. She said she thinks it is important 	<p>6. Health Grade 1 7. Health Grade 2 8. Health Grade 3 9. Health Grade 4 10. Health Grade 5</p>
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	<p>that the parents read and acknowledge it so we can see if there is engagement or not. Mrs. Calabrese said it can be posted in the Google Classroom.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. DiCorpo asked Mr. Rush if the Parent Portal can be used for the sign off. Mr. Rush said yes, an entry can be added for parents to check off. <p>Mr. McCauley moved to bring the following curricula to the full Board for discussion and approval:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to Video Productions 2. Kindergarten General Music 3. Grade 1 General Music 4. Grade 2 General Music 5. Grade 3 General Music 6. Health Grade 1 7. Health Grade 2 8. Health Grade 3 9. Health Grade 4 10. Health Grade 5 <p>Seconded by Mrs. McInerney and passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the following curricula to the full Board for discussion and approval:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to Video Productions 2. Kindergarten General Music 3. Grade 1 General Music 4. Grade 2 General Music 5. Grade 3 General Music 6. Health Grade 1 7. Health Grade 2 8. Health Grade 3 9. Health Grade 4 10. Health Grade 5
<p>4.</p>	<p>Items of Information</p> <p>A. Policy 6200 Adult Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This topic was discussed earlier in the agenda. <p>B. Student Handbook language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Calabrese said handbooks are reviewed annually. This year, with the work the district has been doing regarding Restorative Practices, the plan is to add language to supplement the current disciplinary language already included. The handbooks are reviewed by legal as a final step. Mrs. McInerney said the district had planned on parent involvement in the area of Restorative Practices before COVID hit. She asked if that was still coming. 	<p>Items of Information</p> <p>A. Policy 6200 Adult Education</p> <p>B. Student Handbook language</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Calabrese said one parent evening was held in January. It was recorded and can be found on the district website. • Ms. DiCorpo said Title IV grants will be used for additional staff and parent training. Those funds will be released in the fall so events could be held in November/December at the earliest. 	
5.	Public Comment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was none. 	Public Comment
6.	Adjourn Mr. McCauley moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach and passed unanimously.	Adjourn Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Tammy McInerney, Chairperson
 Committee on Learning