NEW MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS 50 EAST ST. NEW MILFORD, CT. 06776

COMMITTEE ON LEARNING SUB-COMMITTEE <u>MEETING NOTICE</u>

DATE:October 20, 2009TIME:7:30 P.M.PLACE:Lillis Administration Building – Room 2

<u>AGENDA</u>

1. Call to Order

2. Public Comment

The Board welcomes Public Participation and asks that speakers please limit their comments to three minutes. Speakers may offer objective comments of school operations and programs that concern them. The Board will not permit any expression of personal complaints or defamatory comments about Board of Education personnel and students, nor against any person connected with the New Milford Public School System.

3. Discussion and Possible Action Items

A. Review and Approval of Curricula

- 1. Revision Social Studies K-12 Scope and Sequence
- 2. Revision French Curriculum (10-12)
- 3. Revision Forensic Science
- 4. Revision Advanced AutoCAD
- 5. Revision Intellectual History

Mrs. Racey Mrs. Polley Mr. Boothby/Mrs. Reed Mr. Neff Mr. Pernerewski 23

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4. Adjourn

Sub-Committee Members:

Mr. David Lawson, Chair Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mrs. Elizabeth Finney Mrs. Alexandra Thomas

Alternates:

Mrs. Amy Llerena Mr. William Wellman

The Committee on learning documents can be previewed in the Office of the Assistant Superintendent—Room 6 Lillis Administration Building, 50 East Street between 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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Present:	Mr. David Lawson, Committee Chairperson	ш m	9
	Mrs. Amy Llerena	Sa	ċ٠
	Mr. William Wellman	<u></u>	\leq
	Mrs. Alexandra Thomas	<u>د</u> ی	<u></u>
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Also Present:	Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools		001

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	Ms. Catherine Richard, Interim Assistant Superintendent		2603
	Mrs. Racey		21
	Mrs. Polley		
	Mr. Boothby		
	Mrs. Reed		
	Mr. Neff		
	Mr. Pernerewski		

1.	The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Committee on Learning was called to order at 7:30pm.	Call to Order
2.	Public Comment There was no public comment	Public Comment
3.	Discussion and Possible Action	Discussion and Possible Action
A.	Review and Approval of Curricula	Review and Approval of
1.	1. Revision Social Studies K-12 Scope and Sequence	Curricula: 1. Revision Social Studies K-12, Scope and Sequence
	Mrs. Racey said the scope and sequence is what is taught, when, where and why. The scope follows the national, state and district standards with some attempt to follow the state's new guidelines even though that is still a draft document. The major changes include technology and national security and human rights which are current issues. The character attributes are in the scope and	 Revision French Curriculum III and IV Revision Forensic Science Revision Advanced AutoCAD Revision Intellectual History
	 Mrs. Llerena asked if this was American History to which Mrs. Racey replied there is a heavy leaning towards American History within the scope and sequence. 	Motion made and approved to send to the full Board for approval the following curricula: 1. Revision Social Studies K-12 Scope and Sequence 2. Revision French Curriculum
5.	 Revision Intellectual History Mrs. Racey said this course is taught as an honors level. A student who has already taken AP History would take this course. This teaches the history of Western thought and the study of philosophy. 	III and IV3. Revision Forensic Science4. Revision Advanced AutoCAD5. Revision Intellectual History

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the reconstruction format. They classify evidence and discuss probabilities. Arson, trace chemicals, hairs, and fibers are covered.

Mrs. Reed said 88 students wanted to take the course last year but due to a scheduling conflict with a double lab only about 70% of the students could actually take it so the double lab will probably change next year.

- Mrs. Thomas asked if the budget requests in the future would include all the fancy crime scene equipment as seen on TV to which Mr. Boothby replied that the crime scene items were actually very budget friendly. He said the expense was in the textbooks.
- Mrs. Thomas asked if any students were talking about careers in forensics. Mr. Boothby said some students have expressed an interest and he was trying to bring in some guest speakers in the future.
- Mrs. Richard noted that WCSU might be a source of speakers.
- Mrs. Llerena gave kudos to the science department for developing this curriculum.
- Mr. Wellman said he did not get the sense that physics or chemistry were a pre-requisite for this course. Mr. Boothby said this assumes that students had passed Earth Science and biology and had a basic understanding. All sciences are intertwined including viscosities (physics), ballistics (trajectories), blood spatter angles (cosigns, math), toxicology (chemical structures).
- Mrs. Reed said probably all the students taking this class are taking either physics or chemistry.
- 4. Revision Advanced AutoCAD

Mr. Neff said the reason this course has been revised is because of a free upgrade of the AutoCAD software. This is a 1 semester course and basic autoCAD is a perquisite. In Basic AutoCAD 45 drawings will be done including machine and architectural. In Advanced AutoCAD 50 plus drawings will be done including 3-D, dimension, and shading. This course is really designed for someone thinking of becoming an architect or engineer.

Mrs. Thomas asked what kind of homework would be assigned to which Mr. Neff said there was no homework as everything could be

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Mrs. Richard asked if a student received college credit for this course to which Mrs. Racey said they did not. Mrs. Llerena asked how many students take this course to which Mrs. Racey said it varies but 25-30 took it last year. It now runs two semesters because it is popular. Mr. Wellman asked if the first three essential questions were religious or philosophical to which Mrs. Racey said they were philosophical. Mr. Wellman said this course covered so much material and wondered if the text of the philosophers was used or at least the excerpts. Mrs. Racey said the excerpts are used. She said this is a demanding course and these are high school students. 2. 2. Revision French Curriculum III, IV Mrs. Polley said this is the 4th rewrite of this curriculum in the 27 years she has been teaching at New Milford. She said the language itself has not changed but the methodology of teaching has. For example games are used when possible to teach the language. Culture has also been added to the curriculum from French art, architecture and history from pre-historic times to the 19th century. The character attribute is cooperation. Working in groups helps the kids learn the language. The language lab is used frequently and the teachers are looking into podcasting as another method of learning the language. Mrs. Thomas said this was a great way to bring today's world into the classroom; this makes it easier to learn the language. 3. 3. Revision Forensic Science Mrs. Reed said this is the first new course offered in a while in science and has a lot of student interest. There are no state standards for forensics but research was done through Staples, Pomperaug and Joel Barlow. This is a half year course for academic level students though honors students can take the course. The course touches on the legal standards, but also covers physics, biology, chemistry and math.

> Mr. Boothby said science is reviewed throughout this course. He said the first part of the course is defining forensic science. Then they move into the crime scene and

	 completed on the computers in the classroom. Mrs. Richard asked what a student might take after this to which Mr. Neff said Architecture I or Machine Drafting. Mrs. Richard asked if this was a class 9th graders would take to which Mr. Neff said he had the whole gamut of ages. Mrs. Richard asked if women took the class to which Mr. Neff said about 10% of the participants were women. Mrs. Thomas asked if the average student would go on to college to which Mr. Neff said that was mixed. Some students might go onto a technical school; others might go to architectural school or engineering. Mrs. Llerena asked if each child sat at a computer and were there enough computers to which Mr. Neff said yes. Mrs. Thomas moved to send to the full Board for approval the following curricula: Revision French Curriculum III and IV Revision Forensic Science Revision Intellectual History 	
4.	Adjourn Mrs. Llerena moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 pm seconded by Mrs. Thomas and passed unanimously.	Adjourn Motion made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 pm

Respectfully submitted,

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David A. Lawson Curriculum Committee Chair