

**New Milford Board of Education  
 Committee on Learning Sub-Committee  
 March 25, 2008  
 Lillis Administration Building, Room 2**

Present:	Mr. David Lawson, Chairperson*
	Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach*
	Mrs. Elizabeth Finney*
	Mrs. Amy Llerena
	Mr. Thomas McSherry
	Mrs. Alexandra Thomas*
	Mr. William Wellman, alternate
	Mrs. Lisa Diamond, Board Chair

\*Committee Member

Also Present	Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools
	Mr. Thomas Mulvihill, Assistant Superintendent
	Mrs. Delmonico
	Mr. Lipinski
	Mr. Shugrue

1.	<b>Call to Order</b> The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Committee on Learning sub-committee was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Mr. Lawson.	Call to Order
2.	<b>Public Comment</b> No public comment.	Public Comment
3. 3.C.  3.C.1 3.C.1.a-d.	<b>Discussion and Possible Action</b> Mr. Lawson asked if there were any objections to move to item 3 on the agenda to accommodate those present: No objections  <b>Review and approval of Curricula</b> <b>English: Shakespeare; Creative Writing; Science Fiction; Humanities I and II.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Mrs. Delmonico outlined levels of classes which allow teachers to work with courses with flexibility.</li> <li>◆ Creative writing is more popular each year.</li> <li>◆ Science fiction includes a research paper and project by students.</li> <li>◆ Shakespeare offers oral reading performances. Humanities I and II are broad based companion courses aimed at giving students background through literature in major themes prevalent in</li> </ul>	Review and approval of curricula: English: Shakespeare, Creative Writing, Science Fiction, Humanities I and II.  Motion passed unanimously to bring English curricula to the full board for approval.

<p>3.C.2. 3.C.2.a</p>	<p>western civilization.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Mr. Shugrue gave credit to teachers for their passion for the courses exemplified by these working documents.</li> <li>◆ Mr. Lawson noticed the use of power point and inquired if students have time to generate the projects.</li> <li>◆ Mrs. Delmonico noted there are 2 labs; presentation skills are integrated into the courses; technology is encouraged although posters are an option.</li> <li>◆ Mr. Mulvihill added that linking for more courses to have technology in place is encouraged.</li> <li>◆ Mrs. Thomas suggested that the designers of the courses be acknowledged.</li> <li>◆ Mrs. Finney and Mr. McSherry were complimentary of the courses.</li> <li>◆ To Mr. Wellman’s question regarding expertise of individuals who prepared the guides, Mrs. Delmonico replied all teachers have their teaching credentials and spend time preparing and teaching the courses. Sharing within the department is encouraged.</li> <li>◆ Mr. Wellman asked about the types of plays offered in the Shakespeare course. Mrs. Delmonico commented the course allows teachers the flexibility of choice. Four plays are included in each marking period.</li> <li>◆ Mr. Wellman expressed disappointment with the supplementary materials in the science fiction course. Mrs. Delmonico stated the course allows teachers to supplement other materials.</li> <li>◆ Mrs. Thomas moved to bring English: Shakespeare, Creative Writing, Science Fiction and Humanities I and II to the full board. Motion seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach and passed unanimously.</li> </ul> <p><b>Physical Education:</b> <b>Student Leader</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Mr. Lipinski explained sports medicine classes were designed about 7 years ago with interest in the sports medicine field</li> </ul>	<p>Review and approval Physical Education: Student Leader, Sports Medicine.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously</p>
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<p>3.C.2.b</p>	<p>including study of common injuries and their treatment and prevention. The course is an elective for juniors and seniors; classes are limited to about 25. Course includes elements of job opportunities, training, safety, trainer room design related to sports medicine. Anatomy and physiology are integrated in the curriculum. The original course offered CPR which is not available at this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Mr. Wellman asked for the background expertise of the preparer of the guide; Mr. Lipinski’s undergraduate was in sports studies; his grad work in health studies and is currently working on his 6<sup>th</sup>-year degree.</li> <li>◆ Mr. Wellman inquired if use of drugs by athletes is covered in the course with emphasis on ethics. Mr. Lipinski explained P.E. courses and health issues courses include that topic.</li> <li>◆ Mrs. Faulenbach moved to bring physical education to the full board for approval. Mrs. Thomas seconded the motion which passed unanimously.</li> </ul> <p><b>Student Leader</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Mr. Shugrue - a student leader course has been in existence for 5-6 years which allows students to take positions as leaders.</li> <li>◆ Mrs. Thomas asked how teacher/mentors are chosen; there is an application process for students – teachers and students are matched depending on schedules.</li> <li>◆ Mrs. Thomas asked how many students apply? An attempt is made to keep the number under 10.</li> </ul>	<p>to bring physical education curricula to the full board for approval.</p>
<p>3.A.</p>	<p><b>Review Curriculum Handbook</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Mrs. Thomas asked if list of resources is to develop curriculum or will be used during the course.</li> <li>◆ Mr. Mulvihill explained the ideal situation would be to determine what students should learn and how and then purchase materials.</li> <li>◆ Mrs. Thomas suggested a resource list</li> </ul>	<p>Review curriculum handbook.</p>

	<p>would add weight to the document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Mr. Wellman had questions regarding partners in education term definitions i.e. nurturing had no reference to physical; excellence definition is subjective.</li> <li>◆ Mr. Mulvihill commented that some students have tremendous capacity, while others try their best and strive for continuous improvement.</li> <li>◆ Mr. Lawson noted the definitions are part of the appendix which is the Common Core of Learning; he suggested that part one of the document be reviewed; the appendix can be an agenda item.</li> <li>◆ Mrs. Faulenbach commented the changes in the document give direction and has proven helpful.</li> <li>◆ Mr. Lawson called attention to the appendix with the 5-year plan. Changes in this document were due to laws and mandates. From a financial standpoint the document allows for keeping track of textbooks.</li> <li>◆ Mrs. Thomas commented the plan offers a sense of what is happening.</li> <li>◆ Mr. Lawson commented on the 22-1/2 credits required for high school graduation. Commissioners working on reform want to present the final reform to State Board of Education in October; this will have an impact on the 5-year plan.</li> </ul>	
4.	<p><b>Adjourn</b> Mrs. Faulenbach moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Thomas; motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Adjourn Motion to adjourn passed unanimously.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Lawson, Chairperson  
Committee on Learning Sub-Committee