

**New Milford Board of Education  
 Special Committee on Learning Minutes  
 November 20, 2014  
 Lillis Administration Building, Room 2**

**Present:** Mr. David A. Lawson, Chairperson  
 Mrs. Angela C. Chastain  
 Mr. John W. Spatola  
 Mr. Dave Littlefield, Alternate

**Absent:** Mrs. Daniele Shook

**Also Present:** Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools  
 Mr. Joshua Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
 Ms. Ellamae Baldelli, Director of Human Resources  
 Mrs. Christine Benson, Teacher, New Milford High School  
 Mrs. Denise Duggan, Teacher, New Milford High School

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 NEW MILFORD, CT

1.	<b>Call to Order</b> The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Committee on Learning was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Lawson. Mr. Littlefield was seated in the absence of Mrs. Shook.	<b>Call to Order</b>
2.	<b>Public Comment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was none.</li> </ul>	<b>Public Comment</b>
3. A.	<b>Discussion and Possible Action          Review and Approval of Curriculum:</b>  1. <b>Allied Health Careers</b> 2. <b>Health I</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Christine Benson and Mrs. Denise Duggan authored the rewrite of these curricula. Mrs. Duggan said Health I is a half year freshman course required for graduation. It covers issues of mental health, lifestyle diseases and substance abuse among other topics. All students are given instruction to be certified in CPR. This rewrite adds prescription and non-prescription drug addiction as well heroin addiction as topics in response to community concerns.</li> <li>• Mr. Smith commended Mrs. Duggan and Mrs.</li> </ul>	<b>Discussion and Possible Action          Review and Approval of Curriculum:</b>  <b>Allied Health Careers</b> <b>Health I</b>

	<p>Benson for the amount of work they did to connect to community issues and make the course topics specific and real to the students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs. Duggan said Allied Health Careers had been rewritten in the hopes of aligning it with Naugatuck Community College for college credit for students taking the course. It is part of the health career pathway with the EMT and CNA courses.</li> <li>• Mr. Littlefield asked if the credit is only for Naugatuck Community College and Mr. Smith said the credit is transferrable to other colleges depending on individual school guidelines.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mr. Littlefield moved to bring the following curricula to the full Board for approval: Allied Health Careers and Health I seconded by Mrs. Chastain and passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>B. Request for New Program or Course:</b></p> <p><b>1. Engineering Design and Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Lawson said this course is a continuation of the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) program. He said the PLTW program has been able to grow over the last three years due to a generous benefactor who has contributed greatly.</li> <li>• Mr. Smith said this is a new proposal for a succession course for PLTW. It is a capstone course which would require the student to apply knowledge from all other courses to complete a project.</li> <li>• Mr. Smith said now that the PLTW program is in its third year the district can apply for certification through the University of New Haven which oversees the program in the state. He is confident that the program will be certified. Once certified students can receive up to four engineering credits depending on the number of classes taken.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson asked if there is a cost to the student and Mr. Smith said not for the course, possibly a small transfer fee from the college.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the following curricula to the full Board for approval: Allied Health Careers and Health I.</b></p> <p><b>Request for New Program or Course: Engineering Design and Development</b></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Littlefield asked if the credit could be applied retroactively to students who took classes prior to certification and Mr. Smith said he did not know the answer yet.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mr. Littlefield moved to bring the new course Engineering Design and Development to the full Board for approval seconded by Mrs. Chastain and passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>C. Request for Course Revision</b>  <b>1. Academic Statistics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Smith said the revision changes Academic Statistics from a half year to a full year course which will help students achieve the increased graduation requirement of four credits for math. Currently students who do not take Calculus as seniors have few options. This will provide another one.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mr. Littlefield moved to bring the revision of Academic Statistics to the full Board for approval seconded by Mrs. Chastain and passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>D. Five-Year Curriculum Plan (2014-2019)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Smith said the five year curriculum plan was developed after the last NEASC visit. It is a malleable document which is reviewed and reprioritized each year depending on need. The document helps track curriculum changes and is useful for budgetary purposes.</li> <li>Mr. Littlefield asked what the number on the side of each curriculum was for and Mr. Smith said that is when the curriculum was last updated formally. He said the document does not reflect what is happening informally in the classroom with updates. An example given is Website Design which was last formally reviewed in 2007 but which has had many adjustments made within the classroom</li> </ul>	<p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the new course Engineering Design and Development to the full Board for approval.</b></p> <p><b>Request for Course Revision Academic Statistics</b></p> <p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the revision of Academic Statistics to the full Board for approval.</b></p> <p><b>Five-Year Curriculum Plan (2014-2019)</b></p>
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	<p>teaching since then to keep up with technological changes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Lawson asked that the guide be adjusted to reflect the expected approval for AP Microeconomics and Statistics and Mr. Smith said he would make the adjustment.</li> <li>• Mr. Littlefield asked where older curriculum could be viewed and suggested they be put on the district website. Mr. Smith said his office has copies of all curriculum and that curriculum approved after 2011 are listed on the district website. He was hesitant to post older curriculum as guides might not be completely reflective of what is actually taught in the classroom today. He said that prior to 2011 there was no consistent curriculum format so guides vary.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson said that the list might look heavy in high school revision but reminded the committee that things had been moved for the revision to the elementary math curriculum.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mr. Littlefield moved to bring the Five-Year Curriculum Plan (2014-2019) with changes noted to the full Board for approval seconded by Mrs. Chastain and passed unanimously.</b></p>	<p><b>Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the Five-Year Curriculum Plan (2014-2019) with changes noted to the full Board for approval.</b></p>
<p><b>4. A.</b></p>	<p><b>Items for Information and Discussion Personal Finance Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Smith said Personal Finance is currently a half year course at the high school and can be used as a credit for the graduation requirement of Financial Literacy. It is anticipated that the state will make this mandatory within the next few years so staffing may be a consideration.</li> <li>• Mr. Lawson asked if the requirement would be for a half year or full year course. Mr. Smith said it was not yet known but that the district could build on its current half year course with a Personal Finance II course to fulfill a year requirement if needed.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Items for Information and Discussion Personal Finance Update</b></p>

5.	<b>Adjourn</b>  Mr. Littlefield moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Chastain and passed unanimously.	<b>Adjourn</b>  Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m.
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Respectfully submitted:



David Lawson, Chairperson  
Committee on Learning