



**New Hope-Solebury School District**  
**Curriculum Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**January 5, 2017—6:00 PM**  
**UES LGI**

**Attendance**

- **School Board** – Tracy Keyes (Chair)
- **Administration** – Charles Malone, Mr. Stephen Seier
- **Committee Members** –Wenmei Ge, Kathy Feehan, Amy Hoffman, Patti Lund, Hebat El-Turky (HS Guidance Counselor), Amanda Benolken (k-12 Tech Integration Specialist)
- **Presenters** – Mr. Stephen Seier, Ms. Hebat El-Turky, Ms. Amanda Benolken
- **Public** – none

**The meeting was called to order by Tracy Keyes at 6:00 PM.**

**Approved minutes from the November 3, 2017 meeting.**

**Old Business**

- None

**New Business**

- Volunteers in Kindergarten classrooms was mentioned but not discussed. The district does have a policy regarding volunteers already in place. The discussion is tabled and any questions regarding volunteering is to be brought to the school principal.
- Mr. Seier gave an overview of the High School Course Selection Guide and process. He detailed some of the new offerings that will be in place for the 2017-18 school year. This includes a revamping and updating of existing Business Education course under new teacher, Mr. Marchok. These offerings reflect current and future trends and are geared towards student interests/needs. A new Engineering and Robotics course will be offered for the first time and is a collaborative effort between Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Balmer. All interested students should request this course if they desire engineering, computer technology and manufacturing. Finally, AP Environmental Science will be offered to round out an already robust menu of APs that the HS offers. This is being offered due to much interest over the

years by our HS students who take this course virtually in lieu of an offering at the HS.

- Ms. El-Turky spoke to the course selection process and timeline. It is extremely important to adhere to the deadlines that will be in place in order to develop a schedule for students in 2017-18. There was discussion about math sequencing and withdraw procedures. Emphasis on careful course selection during the spring was reiterated as the window for drop/add is short and only done when there are mistakes or conflicts.
- Ms. Benolken gave a presentation on the HS moving to a new Learning Management System called Canvas. This system is more cost effective than Blackboard and more user friendly. While Blackboard and Google Classroom are good options, there are issues with both that are addressed in the Canvas platform. Canvas is being adopted by many school districts in the county and at the collegiate level. This will be great exposure for our HS students as they transition to college. Discussion ensued about committee members personal experiences with Canvas and how they enjoyed its functionality. The particular contract and costs will be presented to the Finance Committee for approval. The CAC approves its instructional benefits for NHSSD students.
- Next CAC meeting will be March 2.
- It is recommended that the August 3 meeting be moved to August 23 due to vacations early in the month.

**Public comment:**

- None – open dialog during presentations.

Mrs. Keyes adjourned the meeting at 6:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Malone  
Director of Elementary and Secondary Education