



New Hope-Solebury School District
Curriculum Advisory Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2017—6PM
UES LGI

Attendance

- **School Board** – Tracy Keyes (Chair)
- **Administration** – Charles Malone, Dr. Chris Cortellessa, Alyssa Marton
- **Committee Members** –Kathy Feehan, Amy Hoffman, Patti Lund, Hita Shah, Adrienne Deussing, Stephanie Marrone
- **Presenters** – Dr. Cortellessa, Mrs. Robtison, Mr. Malone
- **Public** – Jennifer Kennedy-Kranz, Ellen Stiefel, Sarah Zimov Levinson, Eileen James, Sally Diakon, Kristin Vath, Lisa Meehan, Tania Hedlund, Maria Tzemintimpi.

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

Approved minutes from the January 5, 2017 meeting.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Minutes approved from January 5, 2017.
- Membership – Mrs. Keyes stated that it would be wise to remove any member that has not attended a meeting in over a year. There was a motion and seconded. All approved.
- New members have been added and anyone interested in joining may do so by mail or email to C. Malone or T. Keyes via nhsd.org website.
- Mission statement was approved as it appears from previous year.
- Dr. Cortellessa and Mrs. Robtison presented program of studies for the Middle School...moved, seconded and recommended for Board approval. Highlighted during the presentation were new Gifted offerings in 6th grade as well as a pilot for Maker program in 7th grade. Mrs. Robtison, spoke about the course selection process and efforts to move this along to ensure all students are schedule satisfactorily. As with secondary programming, there are certain give and takes that are involved. Students are able to choose some special areas that interest them as well as recommendations given by

teachers for Math and English placement in 7th and 8th grades. Any questions are to be directed to Dr. Cortellessa and Mrs. Robtison.

- Mrs. Marton, Director of Special Education, discussed the new Gifted screening process that will be used in the elementary level to better identify and meet the needs of our learners. The committee asked questions and ultimately were in agreement with the direction of Gifted programming.
- Mr. Malone presented update on Professional Development days from the most recent February 16th and 17th sessions. The Differentiated PD series offered this year has been successful so far, which was highlighted on February 16th with a Best Practices Showcase. There were 15 sessions for teachers to choose from a variety of topics that interested them. These topics ranged from Legal Updates to Behavior Management among others. On February 16th, Joe Ginotti from the University of Pennsylvania's PLN (Penn Literacy Network) spent the entire day working with our k-12 staff on incorporating literacy techniques across the curriculum. Feedback from these two day sessions indicated much usefulness and success in terms of practicality and interest. There will be more offerings like this in the future.
- Mr. Malone gave an overview of upcoming PSSA and Keystone testing that will be taking place in grades 3 through 10. Also, AP exams taking place in May. Parents and guardians are asked to be aware of updates coming from the schools and be sure to have students well rested and prepared for the testing sessions.

Public comment:

- None – open dialog during presentations.

Mrs. Keyes adjourned the meeting at 6:55. Next meeting will be May 4, 2017 @ 6:00 pm in the UES LGI.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Malone
Director of Elementary and Secondary Education