



NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Engaging, Enriching, and Empowering All Students
through a World-Class Education*

Curriculum Advisory Committee

November 1, 2018

UES LGI

*Per BOG 006.2, all public meetings of the Board of Directors,
including committees, are audio recorded.*

Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order at 7:17 PM.

Approve Minutes from the (9/5/18) CAC Meeting

- Approved

Old Business

- None

New Business

- New Technology Happenings - *Informational and Community Connection Opportunity*
 - Dr. Amanda Benoken, K-12 Cyber Education + Technology Specialist, will give an overview of technology integration in our schools.
 - District is continuing its 1:1 initiative
 - New this year is Chrome in the lower schools. We're now using Chrome and the Google Ed suite, K-12
 - Smart badging helps track students and IDs
 - LMS: nothing official in lower schools, K-5, but we're using [Seesaw](#) as a pilot. It's a student digital portfolio and school communication system. Teachers can launch activities for students to do, then moderate and discuss with kids.
 - Teachers using now; students and parents being folded in; hoping to be done in time for fall conferences.
 - Already over 3400 parent views and 1400 parent comments on student work, 3500 items posted by teachers or students.
 - Using a differentiated coaching approach to the rollout to teachers, to make sure each staff member gets the support they need.
 - Canvas is used at the HS level, which is what a lot of higher ed is using
 - Study Island has become antiquated, so we're not using it much anymore; trying to use more personalized and updated test prep systems.

- Communication
 - Communicating on these LMS changes at various parent events (will try for back to school night, next year).
 - Connected family flyers: one per building. (HS example [here](#)). Parents feel there are too many ways to connect and too many places to log in. Now one per building, being rolled out on the website for each school— lists all the ways you can be connected for that school.
 - District website revamp/overhaul coming soon.
 - Redesigned tech positions per school:
 - Tom Marrone at LES
 - Beth DiTulio at UES
 - Craig Smith at MS
 - Cook and Mary Schwander at HS
 - Teachers are setting individualized PD plans around tech integration, to set their own goals and get the help they need.
 - Using back-end analytics to see how teachers are using systems, where they're posting things, etc., to assess usage consistency or inconsistency (how MUCH it's being used).
 - In terms of HOW and WHERE teachers post things, the HS is a bit of a hodgepodge, but the tech folks met just this week with academic departments to look at how things are being done per department.
 - Lack of consistency, esp. at the HS level, the fewer opportunities we give kids for making excuses.
 - Home access center is still the official place for all grades
 - Canvas is a better location for resources and sometimes assignments.
- Curriculum Review Update- English/Language Arts and Health/Physical Education - Informational
 - Dr. McKenna, Mr. Giorgi (English Liaison) and Mrs. Rosenberg (Special Areas Liaison) will update on process and opportunities.
 - Dr. McKenna took the lead in starting ELA curriculum review, while Dr. Malone serves as interim superintendent.
 - Key learnings and understandings, essential questions, etc.
 - Mr. Giorgi: starting the major writing. Doing lots of research, going to conferences. Focusing on some Teach Like a Champion strategies; Kelly Gallagher on writing; more student choice in reading and assignment; specific ties to college and career readiness.
 - Adding choice reading leads to real growth in achievement.
 - Suggesting that kids add 1 book per quarter in desired career choice, at home
 - Focus on what's expected in college-level reading.
 - Ms. Rosenberg: visual arts was finished last year.
 - Spent time at state and regional conferences to learn what's current in the field
 - Moving away from step-by-step directions so that everyone does the same thing, and toward student decision-making and

- problem-solving—teaching artistic behaviors (TAB): how to conduct yourself as an artist.
 - New ceramics curriculum—experience every year (assuming electives in MS and HS). We’re one of the only districts they’re aware of that teaches wheel-throwing in the elementary grades.
 - Tech infusion: building more STEAM experiences throughout the curriculum, some funded by grants (green screen for video; 3D printers).
 - Some involvement in new PBL initiative, more at LES/UES, but some in MS-HS courses doing mini-projects within units, where it doesn’t require an all-or-nothing commitment.
- Safe Schools Update - *Informational*
 - Mr. Pedersen, co-chair of Safe Schools Committee, will update on new ALICE protocols and upcoming Evacuation Drill.
 - Mr. McKenna for Mr. Pederson: one final meeting coming soon with first responders to make final plans for all-school evacuation drill, morning of Nov. 9. Police and fire will be on hand to ensure safety as students move out of the school and to rendezvous points
 - Dr. Malone will send info before the event.
 - Second full drill in the spring.

Public Comment

- Is one drill per semester sufficient?
 - We’ll do the one on the 9th and see what we’ve learned. If we need more than one in the spring, we’ll add one.
- Can the public review the drills?
 - No—against district policy
 - But first responders will be there to watch provide feedback
- Are the rendezvous points inside and open in case of emergency?
 - Yes
- Q on new video cameras: are they taping and storing for any possible discipline issues?
 - Every exterior door is covered, but not every hallway. If something bad did occur, we’d absolutely review available video. It is stored and archived for future review
 - First responders also have access to those cameras
 - Next step is exterior cameras for the UES, and more for the LES (they have one)
 - No intent to use the cameras to watch behavior, but they can be used in emergencies.

Adjournment

- Next meeting to be determined after the 12/5 committee reorg meeting
- Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM

