

East Granby Board of Education
Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
for Thursday, October 5, 2023

Welcome and Attendance

- Board of Education Members Present: Ricky Bortz, Lynn Landolina, Robert Loomis. Also in attendance, Marjorie Light, Director of Curriculum and PD
Those who were absent: Amanda Cormier and Lisa Griffin
- Marjorie called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm.

New Business

- **Data across the district** - Marjorie shared the focus on data in the four schools, giving examples of each. For teaching goals this year, the faculty has an academic focus through using data, as chosen by the PDEC committee last spring. She explained how different disciplines and grades use data and its source. For example, in math in K-6, we have historical data from last year on each individual student, as well as the cohort as a whole, and by various demographics. This allows us to help individuals with targeted learning, along with grouping students with similar needs. In another example, she shared how mClass DIBELS is used for literacy screening, student growth, and progress monitoring for reading fluency, phonemes, and more to build a strong foundation in reading. There are short, formative assessments done throughout the year, giving our teachers data to help them respond to the needs of every student. With older students, data comes from many sources, including the Connecticut Smarter Balanced Assessments (also known as SBACs or SBAs), the NGSS assessment (Next Generation Science Standards), PSAT/SAT, and common assessments. Teachers can use the SBAC interim assessments to gauge student understanding prior to the spring administration.

Principals will be at the October board meeting to present data from various assessments used in different buildings.

- **Personal Learning Communities** - PLC Kickoff - the district is moving toward a focus on PLCs, which will continue into the future. [Edutopia](#) defines PLCs as “an ongoing process in which educators work collaboratively in recurring cycles of collective inquiry and action research to achieve better results for the students they serve” - saying they “are a common and proven practice to promote teacher collaboration that increases student achievement.” As part of this, teachers and principals from across the district will be trained in PLC protocols through Solution Tree. Implementation of PLCs is another reason to look at scheduling at the secondary level.

Old Business

- **Teacher Evaluation work** - this is the discovery and building year for a new teacher evaluation system, as new evaluation systems will be put into place as soon as July of 2024 for the start of the next school year. The CT Department of Education will review each district’s proposals this spring and early summer. East Granby Public Schools has a committee of teachers and administrators who are working on this project, under the umbrella of the Professional Development and Evaluation Committee, known as PDEC.

Adjournment

- There being no further business, Marjorie adjourned the meeting at 4:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Marjorie Light