

**East Granby Board of Education**  
**Curriculum Subcommittee Minutes for**  
**November 16, 2023**

**Welcome**

- Board Members Present: Amanda Cormier; Lisa Griffin; Lynn Landolina; and Bob Loomis.  
Also present: Marjorie Light, Director of Curriculum and Professional Development. Members  
Absent: Ricky Bortz

**New Business**

- **Online Subscriptions Evaluation - ROI**

Marjorie shared how she and Steve Mosher work with the administrative team and the Board of Education office in tracking usage of online subscriptions in order to ensure we get a good return on our investment on any given platform. Curriculum Leaders talk to their colleagues regarding usage, and principals with their faculty. We also seek online subscriptions that better suit our needs at a lower cost. Recently Superintendent Bavaro worked with the admin team on reviewing the ones on record through MUNIS.

- **School Calendar 2024-2025**

We discussed the school calendar and the proposal by the PDEC committee for early dismissal Wednesdays. Marjorie shared how Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are used across the nation to achieve better scores for students in both mathematics and ELA. The recommended time for these meetings is once a week, for at least one hour. In the meetings, teachers drill down to minute data on each child, looking for ways to reteach, remediate, group, or challenge learners. The subcommittee was interested to hear about the advantages to this approach and the great strides districts make. Marjorie further explained that since we do not have “layer” in our district, such as instructional coaches, K-5 or secondary specialists for core subject areas, as they do in nearby districts, this is an opportunity for improvement without necessitating hiring more faculty. The Curriculum Subcommittee would like to see statistics on the benefits of PLCs and read some articles. Marjorie will share those with them next week. The committee also asked if some teachers could talk about this at an upcoming Board of Education meeting. Marjorie will arrange for a few educators to briefly address the Board and community. The Communications Subcommittee could help parents and guardians know to tune in and watch the Board meeting.

**Old Business**

- **Teacher Evaluation, State of CT**

There is a group of teachers and administrators meeting monthly with Kim Marshal on the series of Rethinking Teacher Evaluations as we prepare to follow the state’s guidelines on improving the teacher evaluation process. To that end, East Granby will switch to a new evaluation platform next year, which is easier to use and has cost savings to the district.

- **The Science of Reading - Savvas implementation**

Our teachers are training and working diligently from Kindergarten through Grade 7 to implement the new Savvas reading program. We have had trainers from the company work with the teachers, which is funded through a grant directed toward the Science of Reading.

**Adjournment** - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm.