

East Lyme Board of Education
Academics, Athletics, and Activities (AAA) Committee Meeting
April 7, 2014
MINUTES

Member Present: Candice Carlson (Co-Chair), Tim Hagen and Rob Kupis

Member Absent: Jaime Barr Shelburn

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
April 29, 2014 AT 10:15 AM/PM
Shelburn Blais
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Administrators Present: Brian Reas (Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Personnel), Dr. Karen Costello (Administrator for Program Improvement) , Michael Susi (HS Principal), Chris Mountain (School Psychologist), Chris Olsen (Director of Security), Dr. DeLeeuw (MS Principal), Pam Nowak (HS English CIL/Teacher)

Meeting was called to order by Candice Carlson at 6:00pm.

Prescription and Non-Prescription Drug Use By Young People:

- Mr. Susi, Mr. Mountain and Mr. Olsen where present to discuss prescription and non-prescription Drug use at the High School. Handout presented, reviewed the number of cases per school and in the community. Discussion led to how we approach drug use within the school & how we support our kids internally. Information is disseminated through some of their existing classes as well as team activities. Dr. Costello discussed what we teach throughout the District as well. The Middle School follows the same path. Both have dogs come in to do searches at times.
- Mr. Mountain thought that having a drug counselor at the school would provide more continuity within the school.
- Candice Carlson questioned about the relationship between the District and ASAP as Sarah Butterfield had given a presentation last year and had many outreach ideas for the district. Sarah has since moved on and Dave Mcdowell is the new Director. Everyone agreed that approaching Dave Putnam through Youth Services as well as Dave through ASAP to reestablish a collaborative effort would be beneficial in the hopes of establishing a community connection to address a growing global problem.
- **ELHS French Books:** A brief discussion in regard to updating the French Books and the different price ranges.

OVERVIEW OF BOOK SELECTION PROCESS:

- Discussion on how books are selected and piloted. ELHS CIL Pam Novak was present and discussed the piloting process, how the books are presented for approval and the process in which a parent can take to request their child not read certain material due to sensitive content.
- Mr. Susi suggested at the first of the year a letter go home to parents to inform them of the books their children would be using throughout the year and the content. Mrs. Carlson added that having the district be proactive could possibly help parents with the questions of “Why” is my child reading this book, “Understanding the context in which questionable reading material is being read” and the opt out option possibility. Sensorship was discussed briefly; however, continuing that discussion would be beneficial at the next AAA Meeting.
- The committee was unable to hear the ELMS presentation due to time constraints; however, the committee would like to have them back at the next meeting to continue the discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Candice Carlson
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Co-Chair, AAA Committee