

EAST LYME BOARD OF EDUCATION

East Lyme, Connecticut

11/14/2011

Meeting Minutes

ACADEMICS, ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES (AAA) COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING DATE: Monday, November 14, 2011
LOCATION: Room B101 (INTV Room), East Lyme High School
ATTENDEES: Al Littlefield (Co-Chair), Laura Greenstein (Co-Chair), Jaime Barr, Mary Broderick, Melissa Ford, Brian Reas (Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Personnel), Karen Costello (Administrator for Program Improvement), Mike Susi (ELHS Principal), Judy DeLeeuw (ELMS Principal), ELHS Math Department teachers: Lynne Hansen and Mathew O'Grady, Laurie Frausini Adams (Passion to Profit), Jeannine Barber (Creative Writing II)

The Committee meeting was called to order at 6:30^{PM} by co-chairs Laura Greenstein and Al Littlefield.

MEETING CONDUCT

- **New Courses** - Presentation of the following four (4) new ELHS and ELMS courses for the 2012-2013 school year:
 - ***Passion to Profit*** (ELHS: Family & Consumer Sciences) Half Year
 Course will provide students with the resource management skills needed to turn an idea into a product or service. Students will generate an individual, original business idea through which they will explore the course content including innovation, leadership, communication, and problem solving through both classroom and experienced-based environments.

 The Committee questioned why this is in the Family & Consumer Sciences department instead of the Business department. The response was that the idea for the course originated within the Family and Consumer Sciences department (with Ms. Adams) and that the Business department was closely consulted during the development of this course. The course does provide the business instruction and knowledge using an “entrepreneurial” methodology.

**** AAA Committee recommendation: Approval of Course.**
 - ***Creative Writing II*** (ELHS: English) Half Year
 The course is an open-workshop format in creative writing for those students who have successfully completed the Creative Writing I course and wish to continue their exploration of writing. This course will foster a writers' community at ELHS.

**** AAA Committee recommendation: Approval of Course.**
 - ***Intermediate Algebra*** (Algebra/Geometry Transition) (ELHS: Mathematics) Full Year
 The course will reinforce and build upon topics learned in Algebra I and will introduce/teach concepts of geometry as a method to create a more solid foundation of algebraic skills and better prepare students for additional math/geometry courses.

**** AAA Committee recommendation: Approval of Course.**

– **Topics in Mathematics** (ELHS): Mathematics) Half Year

The course will investigate a variety of topics that are not traditionally covered in high school mathematics courses (e.g., voting, fair division, networking, Fibonacci numbers, and fractals) and provide students with a working knowledge of contemporary mathematics topics that will have broad applications to many future career paths.

This course answers the question: *When in my life will I ever use all of this math stuff that I am learning in school?*

– ** AAA Committee recommendation: **Approval of Course.**

– **Algebra I Part I** (ELMS) Full Year

The course forms the basis of the necessary mathematical knowledge for all future math classes. This course will provide that “extra margin” of time and mathematical instruction that will better prepare students for future mathematics classes.

– ** AAA Committee recommendation: **Approval of Course.**

▪ **Proposed ELHS Textbook Adoption for 2012-2013:**

– *Excursions in Modern Mathematics* (2004)

This text will be used for the Topics in Contemporary Mathematics course. The course is a non-leveled course offered in the second semester for Seniors. The completed Textbook Evaluation Rating Form was included. This text has been previously used as a reference text for the classroom teachers. The cost information also included an option of either purchasing the 25 needed copies as either new (for \$94.97 each) or used (for \$57.45 each).

** AAA Committee recommendation: **Purchase texts.**

▪ **Review of ELHS Mission Statement**

A review of the new ELHS Mission Statement was presented by ELHS Principal, Mike Susi.

New Mission Statement: ***East Lyme High School will educate all students to be responsible, independent, and productive life-long learners.***

Mr. Susi indicated that a revision of the previous ELHS Mission Statement was a recommended candidate for revision from the NEASC Task Force.

The Committee wanted to see the previous ELHS Mission Statement to see what was changed, and see how the new ELHS Mission Statement translates into the school/district goals.

Mr. Susi will provide the Committee with copies of the previous ELHS Mission Statement, the Learning Statements and Rubrics that support the Mission Statement, and the NEASC Task Force recommendation at the next AAA Committee Meeting.

4. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 7:30^{PM}.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Greenstein

Al Littlefield

Laura Greenstein

Al Littlefield

Co-Chair

Co-Chair