

EAST LYME BOARD OF EDUCATION
East Lyme, Connecticut

MINUTES OF
ACADEMICS, ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, March 7, 2011
Room B101, East Lyme High School
7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Laura Greenstein and Al Littlefield (Co-Chairs), Jaime Barr, Melissa Ford

Members Absent: Mary Broderick

Administrators Present: Brian Reas (Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Personnel), Dr. Karen Costello (Administrator for Program Improvement), Mike Susi (HS Principal), Jason Bitgood (Alternative Education Assistant Principal)

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. **Review of Proposed Calculus Textbook** – A presentation was made by HS AP calculus teacher Brian Bergeron. For students to receive UCONN credit for calculus, the text must be selected from the university's prescribed list of texts and the current book is no longer accepted. The book went through the district's review process and the Curriculum Council recommended the adoption of *Calculus Single Variable* (5th edition). AAA committee agreed to send the request on to the full board. The cost is \$2,063.000 for 15 books.
2. **Review of Proposed Chemistry Textbook** – A presentation was made by HS AP chemistry teacher Carl Reichard. Present textbooks are 7 to 10 years old and worn. The newer textbook has better graphics and more problem solving activities. Curriculum Council approved recommending the adoption of *Chemistry* (8th edition). The cost is \$7,645.00 for 40 books. The AAA committee recommended forwarding the request to the BOE for review.
3. **Review HS Personal Finance Course Changes** – A presentation was made by HS business teacher Mike Manifold. The proposed revisions to the Personal Finance Course align with the CT State Department of Education Business and Finance Technology Education Frameworks. Curriculum Council approved recommending the revisions as presented. The AAA committee agreed with the changes but didn't feel a full board review was necessary as this is a re-alignment rather than a revision of curriculum. The current text is out of date and there was a discussion about using on-line materials to support the curriculum.
4. **Review Proposal to Develop Algebra Part I and Part II Course** – First reviewed on October 12, Jason Bitgood reviewed the plan to develop the curriculum for Algebra 1 Part 1 during the summer of 2011. The rationale for this was reviewed and the AAA committee supported the concept.
5. **Review Proposed Coastal Connection Program** – Jason Bitgood reviewed the concept behind the change in the alternative high school. Dr. Lombardo met with the teachers at Niantic Center School (NCS) to discuss the use of the wing above the gym for the Coastal Connections High School (CCHS). A concern about the proximity of high school students to elementary was expressed as well as a need to explore the feelings of the high school students about going to an elementary building. The facilities review indicated

that the building will require modifications to suit high school students, thus questions arose as to how it will be remodeled and at what cost to meet code for bathrooms, separate access, and high school student program use. It was explained that the current alternative education will be phased out due to changes in the student population as there are only two students in this year's program who will not graduate in 2011. The special education program will be able to meet the needs of any students with an IEP and other students have been integrated into ELHS.

If this change is intended to be from an alternative high school to an internship-based charter school then more work needs to be done before approval. Information requested for the next AAA committee:

How will students be selected for this program?

If ELHS students can choose this opportunity, what will the impact be on ELHS enrollment?

What will the curriculum look like; what courses will students take at CCHS?

What will a daily schedule look like for the students?

How will students meet the CSDE/ELHS graduation requirements?

How will the internships be scheduled, monitored, and assessed?

What is the feedback/input from alternative/CCHS students on this change?

What is the reaction/comments from the NCS parent and teacher communities on this change?

There seems to be a plan for revenue generation and if so, what other schools, if any, would be interested in sending students to CCHS and at what cost. The AAA would like more budgetary information in this regard.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Greenstein

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Co-Chair

Al Littlefield

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