



POMPERAUG REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 15
Serving the Communities of Middlebury and Southbury, Connecticut
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The mission of Region 15, a collaborative community committed to excellence, is to educate every student to be productive, ethical, and engaged in a global society through proven and innovative learning experiences supported by its strong community whose decision-making is based on the best interest of all students.
[Mission Statement adopted April 27, 2009]

Policy and Curriculum Committee
MINUTES

Monday, November 23, 2015
Pomperaug High School – Media Center
Southbury, Connecticut

PRESENT:

- Mr. Steven Suriani, Chairperson
- Ms. Jennifer Connelly
- Ms. Sharon Guck
- Ms. Marion Manzo

Also Present:

- Mr. Richard Gusenburg, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
- Ms. Regina L. Botsford, Superintendent of Schools
- Mrs. Nicole Vibert, Department Chair Humanities, Pomperaug High School
- Mrs. LeAnn Cassidy, Teacher and Social Studies Instructional Teacher Leader, Memorial Middle School
- Mr. Glenn Lungarini, Principal, Pomperaug High School
- Ms. Stacey Clark, Pomperaug High School Social Studies Teacher and Instructional Teacher Leader
- Ms. Janet Butkus, Board of Education Member
- Mr. Keith McLiverty, Director of Finance and Operations

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A. Mr. Suriani called the November 23, 2015 Policy and Curriculum Committee meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. A motion to approve the September 28, 2015 minutes, was so moved by Ms. Guck and seconded by Ms. Connelly and all committee members approved.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

3. NEW POLICY:

A. New Policy #5112 Breathalyzers: Mr. Gusenburg noted that policy 5112 Breathalyzers was developed and presented to the Board at the request of Mr. Lungarini. Mr. Lungarini noted that the school has been vigilant this year in working to reduce alcohol use by students. The school system is aware of students so far this year who have consumed alcohol at home and then came to school or school events. Mr. Lungarini reviewed the use of passive alcohol screening (PAS) devices and breathalyzers. Committee members discussed the definition of "reasonable suspicion" when determining who would be asked to use the PAS device to confirm alcohol use. Reasonable suspicion, it was noted, was defined in the policy as:

1. observed use or possession of alcohol
2. alcohol odor or the presence of an alcohol container
3. slurred speech, unsteady gait, lack of coordination, bloodshot or glazed eyes, or
4. marked changes in personal behavior not attributable to other factors.

Mr. Lungairini explained the procedure that would be used for selected extracurricular events such as the school prom. In this case each student would be asked to use the PAS device for entry. Mr. Lungarini described the process that would be used if a positive reading was found. Mr. Gusenburg stressed the fact that the procedure would help ensure that students did not drink and drive to events.

Training and calibration processes were discussed. The committee members and Mr. Lungarini discussed consequences to a positive reading including discipline and counseling options. Committee members made several word changes to the policy including:

- Change "instrument" in paragraph 2 and 4 to "devices"
- Change "monthly and for full calibrating annually" to "according to manufacturers specifications".
- Change "PAS" in the policy to "PAS or breathalyzers" on pages 2 and 3 when appropriate.
- Change "breathalyzers" in the policy to "PAS or breathalyzers" on page 2 and 3 when appropriate.
- Note that a student barred admission to an event is not entitled to a refund.
- Insert the option of "counseling" in addition to disciplinary action.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Connelly, seconded by Ms. Manzo, IT WAS VOTED "to recommend new policy #5112 Passive Alcohol Screening/Breathalyzers as amended to the full Board for first presentation at their next meeting" And passed with Ms. Connelly, Ms. Manzo and Mr. Suriani voting "Aye" and Ms. Guck voting "Nay."

NEW POLICY

4. CURRICULUM:

A. Overview of the Social Studies Plans for 2015-16: Mr. Gusenburg noted that our five year curriculum review process includes an in-depth study of the social studies K-12 curriculum. He introduced Ms. Nicole Vibert and Ms. LeAnn Cassidy who are co-chairing the study. Ms. Vibert and Ms. Cassidy reviewed the following slides:

Social Studies Curriculum Review 2015-2016

Presentation 11/23/2015

Region 15 Social Studies Curriculum Committee Co-Chairs:

- ☐ LéAnn Cassidy- Instructional Teacher Leader for Social Studies at MMS
- ☐ Nicole Vibert- Humanities Chairperson PHS

CURRICULUM

Why Change?

Connecticut Frameworks for Social Studies

Common Core State Standards

6 Cs: Focus on critical thinking

Building global citizens for the 21st century and beyond

Focus areas (Elementary)

Review of the K-5 curriculum as it aligns with the Common Core Standards and the Connecticut Framework for Social Studies

Rewrite the curriculum for multiple grades due to a shift in content area focus in the new social studies frameworks

Review of social studies instructional time at both the early elementary and upper elementary levels

Review of and creation of interdisciplinary inquiry based lessons K-5

Focus Areas (Middle)

Review of the Social Studies Curriculum for grades 6-8

Current Status of Curriculum

Current Status of Common Assessments and Rubrics

Review of technology and inquiry standards for integration into the curriculum through the 6 Cs

Building common assessments and rubrics

Creating inquiry based lessons and units of study

Review of resources and technology to support curriculum

Focus Areas (High School)

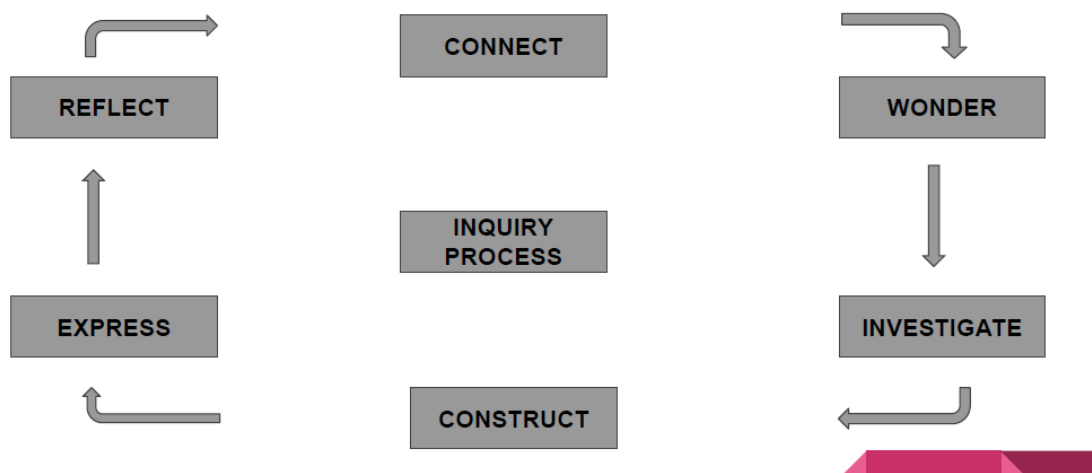
Review High School Social Studies program (6 C's, C3, CCS, High School Reform)

New course proposals centered on inquiry and the 6 C's (capstone focus)

Increased student choice based on interest (engagement and 21st century learning)

Building community partnerships (externship opportunities)

Review of resources and technology to support shift in curriculum and instruction



Progress to Date

Completed a review of new Connecticut Frameworks and our current curriculum

Developed a K-12 Curriculum Map

Established areas of focus

Reviewed the cycle of Inquiry and Learning

Currently building an understanding of areas for growth in inquiry based learning and assessment through research and review of current practices

Developing a rubric for assessing the quality of inquiry in lessons across the region



Action Steps:

- 1) Site visitations to support the integration of Social Studies into other curricular areas (Elementary)
- 2) Needs assessment for technology and resources to support the social studies curriculum at all levels
- 3) Evaluation of the practice of inquiry in Region 15 through instructional rounds
- 4) Implementation of ongoing professional development centered on resulting needs from instructional rounds
- 5) Dedicated curriculum writing time during summer (2016)

5. REVISED POLICIES:

- A. Revised Policy #6145 Curricular Exemptions
- B. Revised Policy #1331 Prohibition Against Smoking
- C. Revised Policy #6163.6 Student Use of the District's Computer Systems and Internet Safety

On a motion by Ms. Connelly, seconded by Ms. Manzo it was moved to table discussion of revised policies until the next meeting. And passed unanimously.

REVISED
POLICIES

6. INFORMATION:

- A. Assessments – Nationwide: Articles were provided for the committee members on changes taking place nationwide in the area of assessment. There was no discussion of the articles at this meeting.

INFORMATION

7. SCHEDULE:

- A. P&C Meeting Schedule: The committee discussed the conflict in the upcoming meeting schedule for December and tentatively decided to meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2015.

SCHEDULE

<p>8. COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS: None.</p>	<p>COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS</p>
<p>9. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: None.</p>	<p>COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS</p>
<p>10. ADJOURNMENT:</p> <p>A. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m., was so moved by Ms. Connelly and seconded by Ms. Manzo and all committee members approved.</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>
<p>11. FUTURE POLICY AND CURRICULUM MEETINGS:</p> <p>Monday, December 7, 2015 Monday, December 14, 2015 – Special Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Pomperaug High School – Media Center Southbury, Connecticut</p> <p><u>2016 Meetings:</u> Monday, January 11, 2016 Monday, February 8, 2016 Monday, March 14, 2016 Monday, April 25, 2016 Monday, May 9, 2016 Monday, June 13, 2016</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Pomperaug High School – Media Center Southbury, Connecticut</p>	<p>FUTURE MEETINGS</p>