

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 30, 2023 @ 5:00 P.M. Central Office, Room 4

Members Present: Andrea Ackerman, William Horgan, Liz Porter
Also Present: Susan Austin, Phil Piazza, Ted Keleher, Clint Kennedy

Chairperson Porter called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. Review of Minutes:

Motion: Ackerman, Horgan; to approve the minutes of December 19, 2022

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Update on the status of the Board approved curricula at Fitch and Groton Middle School

Will be provided by Dr. Piazza via email this week.

3. Discussion on the Freshmen Academic Seminar and the Global Citizenship courses

- a. Superintendent Austin and Principal Keleher recapped latest work around these two classes; noting importance of GC in preparation for Capstone Personal Project; there are elements that are essential from both; both classes will be compacted in one semester course
- b. Principal Keleher spoke to making sure we increase access to courses, opening up opportunities for students, utilizing staff and increasing numbers in courses. Staff at Fitch is reviewing electives to determine any adjustments to be made from full year to semester courses.
- c. Curriculum will be handled by this committee as updates/revisions of existing courses
- d. Next steps: compiling list of classes to be compacted for Curriculum subcommittee & outline a plan to complete the revisions.

4. Discussion on the ChatGPT and its potential impacts

- a. Dr. Ackerman and Dr. Kennedy offered opinions on the latest AI software program ChatGPT
- b. Too new right now, still fixing bugs in program; program has plusses and minuses
- c. We should consider opportunities as well as prepare for possible abuses
- d. Next steps: we will continue to research, possible discussion at a future BOE meeting

5. Referral List

We will discuss aspects of financial literacy currently within the GPS curriculum

6. Future Topics

Chat GPT

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m. (Motion by Ackerman, seconded by Horgan, unanimously approved.)