

Teaching and Learning Sub Committee Special Meeting
Minutes
September 21, 2017
Central Office
5:30 p.m.

Attending: D. Downie, Chairperson, C. Anderson, A. Garvey, J. Bausch, M. Butler

Called to order: D. Downie, 5:30 p.m.

SPS Science Curriculum

Discussion:

Jennifer Bausch provided updates on the transition to the Next Generation of Science Standards and science curriculum development for the 2017-2018 school year. Kickoff meetings at the elementary levels will take place early in October and writing will commence shortly thereafter at the elementary and middle school levels. Biology curriculum at the high school will be written this year.

Decision:

Curricula will be submitted to the Teaching and Learning Subcommittee for review as they are completed.

Curriculum Practices and Instruments

Discussion:

The Stonington Curriculum Development Guide, same unit template, and descriptors of the unit template were shared with the Subcommittee members.

Decision:

The Subcommittee members will use descriptors provided in the unit template as a reference when reviewing curriculum.

Trend Tool

Discussion:

The Trend Tool that will be used for tracking the implementation of curriculum and the level of student engagement was also shared. Data gleaned from these visits will inform professional development and curriculum work.

Decision:

Classroom visits begin September 27, 2017.

STEAM

Discussion:

Two of the STEAM Exploratory Units were shared: Grade 8 -Creative Coding and Grade 7-Robotics. All units will demonstrate the connection between the design processes in art and engineering. NESS is partnering with SPS to craft the curriculum for the Grade 5-Aquaponics Exploratory. Artists from the Pequotsepos Nature Center will also be supporting the Exploratory. The 6th Grade Unit will be Engineering Design.

Decision:

Continue to utilize and promote partnerships with community resources in the town to strengthen programming and expand students' understanding of career options.

Future Agenda Items:

None Identified.

Adjourn: 6:53 p.m.


Respectfully Submitted By:
Mary Anne Butler, Assistant Superintendent