

Newtown Board of Education  
Newtown, Connecticut  
Curriculum and Instruction/SEL Subcommittee

D. Ramsey      J. Vouros      B. Nolte      K. DiBartolo  
C. Gilson      P. Beierle      M. Hiscavich      A. Uberti

Minutes from the Board of Education Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

D. Ramsey called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.  
D. Ramsey moved to approve the minutes from the 12/12/23 meeting.  
C. Gilson seconded the motions.

**Public Participation:** None

**Curriculum Presentation: Band 5 & 6 – P. Beierle, B. Nolte, M. Hiscavich**

Below is the slide presentation for Band 5 and 6, followed by some key notes from the presentation.

[https://www.canva.com/design/DAFzytd1wQE/0CphVrjUE91OVwFMwUSRgG/edit?utm\\_content=DAFzytd1wQE&utm\\_campaign=designshare&utm\\_medium=link2&utm\\_source=sharebutton](https://www.canva.com/design/DAFzytd1wQE/0CphVrjUE91OVwFMwUSRgG/edit?utm_content=DAFzytd1wQE&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton)

- Grade 5 and 6 students are required to take one of the three: Band, Chorus, or Orchestra.
- Grade 5 Band has 150 students and Grade 6 Band has 120 students this school year.
- Team teaching is key for success as is lesson groups.
- Music Day-Band, Chorus, and Orchestra students from the high school come and play for and with the grade 5 and 6 students.
- Band O' Roma all the bands go to NHS gym. Students all perform for each other in a round circle. Then all the groups play together. 500 students all together.

**Grades 6-8 Reading Program Pilot Midyear Update – K. DiBartolo**

K. DiBartolo presented an update on the Grade 6-8 pilot. The link to the presentation is below, followed by some key notes from the presentation.

[Grade 6-8 Reading Pilot January Update](#)

- The two programs we are piloting are- Imagine Learning, EL Education and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH), Into Literature.
- The pilot began in September 2023 with a full implementation expected in fall of 2024.

### **Assistant Superintendent Updates – A. Uberti**

A. Uberti notified the subcommittee members that policy 6172.1, Gifted and Talented Program, was added to the policy committee meeting scheduled for January 12, 2024. It was last revised and approved by the Board in June of 2022 so she is not sure why it is being reviewed but she will keep the C & I members updated.

The committee discussed that curriculum presentations will now only take place in the C & I Subcommittee and will not be repeated in full at Board meetings unless requested by the Board. In light of this, A. Uberti suggested extending the length of the meeting when new curriculum is presented to C & I to allow for a thorough review and discussion. Committee members agreed.

**Public Participation:** None

D. Ramsey adjourned the meeting at 12:33 p.m.

C. Gilson seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Norling

THESE ARE DRAFT MIUNUTES AND ARE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIUON/SEL COMMITTEE.

