



MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
— MONROE, CONNECTICUT —

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2015
MASUK HIGH SCHOOL
LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
1014 MONROE TURNPIKE
MONROE, CONNECTICUT 06468

CURRICULUM COUNCIL
AGENDA

4:00 P.M.

OLD BUSINESS

- I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 3, 2015 MEETING

NEW BUSINESS

- I. CURRICULUM COUNCIL PROCESS - JOHN BATTISTA & SHEILA CASINELLI
 - A. CURRICULUM ADOPTION SCHEDULE
 - B. CURRICULUM PRESENTATIONS
 - C. SET CALENDAR FOR THE YEAR

Curriculum Council Meeting dates for 2015-2016, as needed, include:

- *October 7, 2015*
- *November 4, 2015*
- *December 2, 2015*
- *February 3, 2016*
- *March 2, 2016*
- *April 6, 2016*
- *May 4, 2016*



MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Monroe Board of Education
Curriculum Council Committee
June 3, 2015
4:00 PM
Masuk High School

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Sheila Casinelli, Curriculum Council Co-Chair.

Those in attendance included: Sheila Casinelli, Jim Agostine, John Battista, Jack Zamary, Kay Moser, Debra Kovachi, Jack Ceccolini, Mark Schwarz, Jamie Sherry, Kelly Pecca, Sean Serafino, Elisa Rubis, Bonnie Waring, Bill McDonough, and Nancy DePietro.

Old Business

I. *Approval of April 29th, 2015 Minutes*

Motion: Mark Schwarz

Motion to approve minutes from the April 29, 2015 Curriculum Council meeting.

Second: Jamie Sherry

Vote: Unanimous

New Business

I. K-12 Technology Literacy Curriculum – Jack Zamary

Jack Zamary, Director of Technology, shared a proposal for a revised K-12 Technology Literacy Curriculum. Previously, the district had a K-8 Keyboarding curriculum; however, with changing technology, it was no longer appropriate. This new curriculum will be embedded into existing Monroe curricula, which has already been approved by the BOE allowing for cross-curricular work. Referent documents used to create this curriculum include, the Ellington Competencies Continuum, ISTE Standards and the SBAC Technology Skills Checklist. The K-12 Technology Integrators, K-12 Library Media Specialists, K-12 Curriculum Coordinators and classroom teachers will be working during grade level meetings, departments meetings, PD sessions and during some release days to look for opportunities to embed this work into units of study across all grade levels. No monies are being requested at this time.

A motion was made to move the K-12 Technology Literacy Curriculum to the Board of Education for approval.*

Motion: Kelly Pecca

Motion to move curriculum revision proposal to Board of Education for approval.*

Second: Sean Serafino

Vote: Unanimous

II. Career Development – Bonnie Waring

Bonnie Waring, Masuk Business Education Teacher, shared a proposal for curriculum revision for the course Career Development, formerly known as Business Work Experience. Career Development is a full-year course, which provides students with a solid foundation for succeeding in the world of work. Students will explore various career paths, which match their personal skills and interests. In addition to developing a career plan, students will also acquire the skills necessary for employment such as resume writing and interviewing. Students are also introduced to various guest speakers who speak about their chosen occupation. Representatives from Lincoln Technical Institute and Naugatuck Valley Community College have also been invited to speak with the students about their schools, the programs offered at each, and the admission process. Summer curriculum writing hours are being requested for this work - 15 hours.

A motion was made to move the Career Development Curriculum to the Board of Education for approval.*

Motion: Elissa Rubis

Motion to move this curriculum revision proposal to Board of Education for approval.*

Second: Jim Agostine

Vote: Unanimous

III. Graphics Design and Technology – Nancy DePietro

Nancy DePietro, Masuk CTE/Photography Teacher, shared a proposal for curriculum revision for the course Graphics Design and Technology, formerly known as Graphics. Graphics Design and Technology provides students with the processes involved in the technologies of printing, publishing, packaging, electronic imaging, and their allied industries. It offers a range of cognitive skills, aesthetics, and crafts that include typography, visual arts and page layout. Students will be navigating and learning Adobe Creative Suite, which includes Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere and Dreamweaver. Not only will students be learning industry standard software for multimedia production, they will also be learning how to learn new software. Adaptability is essential to 21st century living because of ever changing interfaces and applications. The current Graphic course's content, skills, and use of technology have changed significantly since the last revision of this course. Summer curriculum writing hours are being requested for this work - 20 hours.

A motion was made to move the Graphics Design and Technology Curriculum to the Board of Education for approval.*

Motion: Jim Agostine

Motion to move this curriculum revision proposal to Board of Education for approval.*

Second: Jamie Sherry

Vote: Unanimous

IV. Computer Programming II (JAVA) – William McDonough

Bill McDonough, Masuk Computer Science Teacher, shared a proposal for curriculum revision for the course Computer Programming II (Java). Java is a high-level programming language that is one of the most commonly used to create web applications. Java Programs are multi platform and can run on systems such as Macintosh, Windows, Unix and Linux. Java does not run as part of the operating system but must have Java virtual Machine (interface) installed on the machine, there are several available and all are free. Java gives students their first exposure to an object oriented programming language. The emphasis within the course is to use the syntax structure (variable, loop, decision structures, counter) learn in the programming I course and adapt them to an object oriented language. Java is an explicit language that requires extensive code structures to run properly. Course topics will include but are not limited to flow controls, classes, methods, data management. The AP Computer Science test is based on the Java language. It has been over ten years since the last revision. Masuk's technology and course offering in computer science have changed dramatically over that time. Since the last time the curriculum was revised, the units of study have been

tweaked on a yearly basis to accommodate changes in student population, equipment, programming trends and reference materials becoming available. With all of the small changes that have been made over the years, the approved curriculum in a broad sense is still what we teach. Most of the units of study need to be updated to reflect the changes that have been made to improve the course and keep it relevant to the constantly changing landscape of computer science. Summer curriculum writing hours are being requested for this work - 40 hours.

A motion was made to move the Computer Programming II (Java) Curriculum to the Board of Education for approval.*

Motion: Mark Schwarz

Motion to move this curriculum revision proposal to Board of Education for approval.*

Second: Sean Serafino

Vote: Unanimous

V. PC Environment – William McDonough

Bill McDonough, Masuk Computer Science Teacher, shared a proposal for curriculum revision for the course PC Environment. The PC Environment class is a class that provides students with hands on experience in which they build a computer. The class is a two-pronged approach. First students research all components that are used in current technology computers. They will gain a working knowledge of how a computer works and what hardware parts are need to make a computer. The second phase of the class is dedicated to hands on experience with computers to become comfortable identifying and using different hardware components. During this phase of the course students will disassemble and reassemble a variety of computers to become familiar with the differences and similarities found between computer manufacturers. The students' final exam is to build their own computer and have a fully functional computer to take home with them at the end of the class. There is a lab fee of \$375.00 to cover the cost of the student's computers (paid by each student enrolled in the class). This would be the first revision since the course was originally approved 8 years ago. Masuk's technology and course offering in Computer Science have changed dramatically over that time. The units of study listed in the current approved curriculum include technology that is no longer used in the computers we build and many units need to be added to cover current technology and hardware. Changes have been made within the classroom over the past years to stay current with technology and the needs of the students. With all of the changes that have been made over the years, the approved curriculum in a broad sense is still what we teach but needs to be updated to reflect the classroom changes that have been made. Most of the units of study need to be updated to reflect the changes that have been made to improve the course and keep it relevant to the constantly changing landscape of computer science. Summer curriculum writing hours are being requested for this work - 20 hours.

A motion was made to move the Computer Programming II (Java) Curriculum to the Board of Education for approval.*

Motion: Mark Schwarz

Motion to move this curriculum revision proposal to Board of Education for approval.*

Second: John Battista

Vote: Unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Next meeting date ~ September 9, 2015.

*Curriculum Revisions of existing courses no longer go to the BOE for approval. See revised Curriculum Council plan, September, 2015.