

**Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment  
Board of Education Curriculum Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, November 27, 2012 – 5:00 p.m.**

Members Present:	Mr. Larry Greenstein Ms. Nora Johnson	Mr. Michael DeStio Mr. Alan Baer
Guests:	Dr. Kathleen Mooney	Mrs. Karen Sloan
Community Members:	Mr. and Mrs. Weinstein	Ms. Lynn Steinberg

Minutes

The BOE Curriculum Committee was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Larry Greenstein, Committee Chairperson. The focus of this meeting: District-wide Math program.

Michael DeStio, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment discussed the history of the mathematics national reform movement and the critical nature that Math as well as Science plays in increasing our Nation's performance in International Testing. Discussion included the current approach to Math instruction at Port Washington and the challenge that Grade 6 teachers have in leveling the curriculum to meet the needs of the children being taught with many different methods K-5.

The presentation also involved the benefits of a common approach to teaching K-5 math with regard to such pressing concerns as the PARRC assessments which will begin in 2014-15. The PARRC assessments involve district-wide on-line testing based on the Common Core Standards. The Common Core is internationally benchmarked, aligned with work and post-secondary education expectation and is inclusive of the higher order skills that students need to be top performers in life. It was discussed that the Common Core needs to be properly implemented and that a dedicated math curriculum with teacher and administrative support would begin this process. Staff development must be a strong consideration in the implementation of any program.

The presentation then turned to the exploration of one of several top mathematics programs offered in New York State and in particular one that is used most frequently on Long Island. It was said that these programs "guide the staff to a consistent approach to math instruction with timelines, expectations, technology and embedded assessments" as well as a differentiated component for students at varying abilities. The program is not designed to be a "lock-step" program but one that allows for full teacher creativity within the framework of a common language.

Dr. Kathleen Mooney, Interim Superintendent, clearly explained the process for implementing a new program. An administrative goal and timeline is brought to the Professional Growth and Curriculum Development Committee. This joint committee, comprised of representative of the Teachers Association and the Administration, forms a subcommittee to begin the review. After the review process is completed, a recommendation is put forward to the Superintendent of Schools for approval.

Larry Greenstein thanked Mr. DeStio for his presentation and everyone for attending.

Next Meeting:	December 14, 2012 8:30 a.m. - Annex
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