

## **Special Curriculum Committee Meeting**

Friday, December 18, 2020 9:00 AM

Via Zoom - Dial in: 1 646 558 8656 Passcode: 960728, 24 School Road, Weston,  
CT 06883-1623

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Presentation and Discussion on WHS Alternative  
Pathways**

**III. Other Curricular Issues**

**IV. Adjournment**

## ***ALTERNATIVE PATHWAYS***

### **DESCRIPTION**

*Alternative Pathways* provides students with a safe and supportive pathway to graduation and success that is based on individual student needs. Candidates for *Alternative Pathways* are students who experience social emotional difficulties that lead to anxiety and school avoidance that impede their learning in traditional ways, and require advanced academic support. *Alternative Pathways* empowers students so that they are able to fully participate in our school community and experience success.

*Alternative Pathways* focuses on both the social/emotional and academic challenges on a daily basis. The Alternative Pathways Social Worker is the coordinator of this program and the students' primary clinical support. The academic curriculum is aligned with WHS courses and provides individualized instruction for students to meet the credit requirements for a WHS diploma. Curriculum Instructional Leaders (CILS) in the core areas of math, science, social studies, and English are the teachers assigned to provide academic support. Coursework may take the form of small group instruction, virtual learning, academic classes in the school, or independent study in an area of interest. Students are encouraged to participate in WHS events including athletics, clubs, community service, theater, and other co-curricular programs.

### **FLEXIBILITIES OF THE PROGRAM**

- Students earn credits in alternative academics/electives/regular classes.
- Online/DL courses, depending on need.
- Provides student choice, which serves as a motivator.
- Encourages parental involvement.
- Ability to change programs based on data/student needs.

It will be an individualized, customized program with the following parameters:

- Eight total blocks
- Four blocks for services including counseling, support, transition, credit recovery, Health/PE, community service
- Four blocks for core academic courses of math, social studies, English, science

Staff would include one full time social worker, one paraprofessional, .8 FTE academic teachers. The academic teachers assigned to the program would be .2 FTE of the CILS teaching schedules. CILS are most familiar with all of the courses and can deliver curriculum in their area. This reallocation of their teaching schedule does not affect their CIL responsibilities.

## BUDGET

Effective School Solutions, a contracted service provider at Weston High School for the past five years is approximately \$300,000. Our proposed program is approximately \$251,000 and includes the following:

- One social worker FTE (Masters + 7 = \$72,475 + benefits \$27, 000 = \$99,475).
- .8 FTE academic teachers (English, social studies, math, science \$85,000). The WHS staffing budget has been reduced .8 to cover this cost.
- One paraprofessional (first step = \$25/hour x 8 hours = \$200/day x 190 days = \$38,000 + \$22,000 benefits = \$60,000).
- Online courses \$5,000.
- Miscellaneous supplies \$1,500.

Overall Total: \$250,975

**SAMPLE BELL SCHEDULE, PERIOD ROTATION, & LUNCH**

BLOCK	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1 7:45 – 8:41	3	1	2	1	4 MATH	2	1	2
2 8:46 – 9:42	4 MATH	2	1	2	3	1	2	1
3 9:47 – 10:43	5 ENGLISH	6 SOCIAL STUDIES	3	3	6	5 ENGLISH	3	3
4 10:52 – 12:28	6 SOCIAL STUDIES	5 ENGLISH	4 MATH	4 MATH	5 ENGLISH	6 SOCIAL STUDIES	4 MATH	5 ENGLISH
5 12:33 – 1:29	7 SCIENCE	8 CREDIT RECOVERY/ ADAPTIVE PE/HEALTH	7 SCIENCE	5 ENGLISH	8 MATH	7 SCIENCE	8 CREDIT RECOVERY/ ADAPTIVE PE/HEALTH	
6 1:34 – 2:30	Community SERVICE	7 SCIENCE	Community SERVICE		7 SCIENCE	8 Community SERVICE	7 SCIENCE	6 SOCIAL STUDIES
<b>DROP</b>	<b>1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>3 &amp; 4</b>	<b>5 &amp; 6</b>	<b>7 &amp; 8</b>	<b>1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>3 &amp; 4</b>	<b>5 &amp; 6</b>	<b>7 &amp; 8</b>

\*Periods 1, 2, 3, 8:  
 Counseling  
 Transition  
 Adaptive PE  
 Academic Support  
 Credit Recovery  
 Electives

Periods 4,5,6,7:  
 Core Academics