

Curriculum Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:00 AM

Via Zoom - Dial In: 1 646-558-8656 Code: 969458, 24 School Road, Weston, CT
06883-1623

I. Call to Order

**II. Information on curriculum renewal cycle • 5-
year cycle • Schedule of renewals • Continuous
improvement timeline**

**III. World Language curriculum renewal presentation
and discussion**

IV. Approval of Minutes

V. Other Curricular Issues

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Curriculum Renewal Cycle

Years 1 and 2 *Research and Development*

- Align curriculum with frameworks and standards
- Review literature, research, best practices
- Develop units
- Identify materials and resources
- Determine PD needs
- Year 2 PD preparation
 - Data driven
 - Research proven practices
 - New technology
 - Student needs

Year 3 *Implementation*

Put curriculum into practice

Ongoing Professional Development

Year 4 *Monitoring*

How are we doing?

Is it in place?

Year 5 *Evaluation*

Assess success +/-

Curriculum Renewal Cycle 2018-2025

Year	Art	Music	English 6-12	Reading K-5	Writing K-5	SS K-5	SS 6-12	Science	Technology	Phys Ed	Health	World Lang	K-12 Math	Project Challenge	Counseling
2018-19			YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 4	YEAR 3		YEAR 3			YEAR 1	YEAR 3			
2019-20	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 4		YEAR 4		YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 4			
2020-21 PAUSE	PAUSE	PAUSE	PAUSE	PAUSE	PAUSE	PAUSE	PAUSE	PAUSE	PAUSE	PAUSE	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	PAUSE	PAUSE	PAUSE
2021-22	YEAR 2	YEAR 1	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 1	YEAR 5	YEAR 1	YEAR 5	YEAR 1	YEARS 2 & 3	YEAR 4		YEAR 1		YEAR 1
2022-23	YEAR 3	YEAR 2	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 2	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 4	YEAR 5		YEAR 2	YEAR 1	YEAR 2
2023-24	YEAR 4	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 1	YEAR 3	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 5			YEAR 3	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
2024-25	YEAR 5	YEAR 4	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 4	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 3	YEAR 4				YEAR 4	YEAR 3	YEAR 4

Year 1 Research
 Year 2 Development
 Year 3 Implementation
 Year 4 Monitoring
 Year 5 Evaluation

**Weston Public Schools
Continuous Improvement Timeline
2010-Present**

This document provides a snapshot of continuous improvement efforts over the years. Many of the initiatives are a direct result of the ongoing curriculum renewal cycle and the collaborative efforts of teachers, CILs, and school and district leaders. The initiatives listed here fall under three broad umbrellas categories:

- 1. Professional Development Initiatives**
- 2. New Programs, and**
- 3. New Courses**

Funding for continuous improvement is built into the annual budget in the curriculum and instructional cost center. The C&I budget has often been referred to as the research and development funds for the district.

2010-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AIM Pilot Year - Partnership with TC ● WMS TV Production Studio and Morning Show ● WMS Digital Music Courses Replace General Music ● WPS Science Summer Institute
2011-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AIM Development Year - Grades 2, 5, 8, HS - Partnership with TC ● CCSS Math Training and Implementation Kindergarten ● Math in Focus Pilot ● WMS Library Learning Commons Renovation and Makerspace
2012-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AIM Development Year - Grades 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, HS - Partnership with TC ● PADI (Performance Assessment Design Initiative) ● CCSS Math Training and Implementation w/ Math in Focus - Grades 1, 2 ● WMS Innovation Space Designed and Constructed ● WMS Project Lead the Way Added
2013-14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AIM Development Year - Grades K, HS ● PADI Project ● CCSS Math Training and Implementation w/ Math in Focus - Grades 3, 4 ● WMS Robotics Program ● Established National Art Honor Society at WHS

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● WPS 6-12 Common Core Summer Institute
2014-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● K-12 Writing Initiative - Pilot 10th Grade Writing Portfolio and School Wide Rubric ● PADI Project ● New K-5 Spanish Immersion Program - Grade K ● CCSS Math Training and Implementation w/ Math in Focus - - Grade 5 ● WIS Robotics Program ● WPS K-5 Writing Summer Institute
2015-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● K-12 Writing Initiative - Implementation of 10th Grade Portfolio, Pilot of 8th Grade Writing Portfolio and School Wide Rubric ● New K-5 Spanish Immersion Program - Grade 1 ● NGSS Science Training - Grades 6-12 ● District Computer Science Program Continuum - 3 high school courses, middle school course and units ● WHS Writing Center ● Revision to HS Science scope and sequence to allow for more student choice in grades 11 and 12 (Eliminated Geophysical Science; All 9th graders take Biology) ● WPS Technology Summer Institute
2016-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● K-12 Writing Initiative - HS Writing Graduation Requirement, Implementation of 8th Grade Writing Portfolio ● New K-5 Spanish Immersion Program - Grade 2 ● NGSS Science Implementation - Grade 6; Biology ● Expanded Orchestra Program to 4th Grade ● Added Creative Computer Applications course to WHS Visual Art ● WHS Environmental Science ● Integrated the use of IHT heart rate bands into middle school PE classes.
2017-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New K-5 Spanish Immersion Program - Grade 3 ● NGSS Science Training and Pilot - Grades K-2, 5 ● NGSS Science Implementation - Grades 7, 8; Chemistry, Physics ● WHS Science Research Program - Development ● WHS Robotics Club
2018-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New K-5 Spanish Immersion Program - Grade 4 ● NGSS Science Implementation - Grades K-2, 5 ● New 5th Grade Teaming Model Implementation ● WHS Science Research Program - Year 1 ● WIS MakerTech Trimester courses ● AP Environmental Science ● Revitalization of College and Career Center ● Seal of Biliteracy

<p>2019-20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New K-5 Spanish Immersion Program - Grade 5 ● NGSS Science Implementation - Grades 3, 4 ● Remote Learning (March - June) ● 9th Grade Health Curriculum - DBT STEPS A Program ● Increased Health graduation requirement to 1.0 credit ● WHS Composition Seminar ● WHS Sports Broadcasting & Journalism ● Updated/modernized Television Studio at WHS ● AP Music Theory
<p>2020-21</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hybrid and Remote Learning Initiative - Teacher Toolkit ● Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Training - Year 1 ● 10th Grade Health Curriculum - DBT STEPS A Program ● AP Human Geography ● WHS Advanced Sports Broadcasting & Journalism
<p>2021-22</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Training - Year 2 ● WHS Academic Pathways ● WHS Voices From the Edge ● WHS American Tapestry

WHS Enrollment 2016-2021

YEAR	Spanish 1	Spanish 2	Spanish 3	Spanish 4	Spanish 4H	Spanish 5	Spanish 5H	Spanish 6/6H	Spanish 6 AP
17-18	24	47	101	41	38	29	34	18	23
18-19	18	46	91	48	29	32	22	16	23
19-20	7	27	87	44	26	31	31	1	16
20-21	8	23	79	43	34	29	27	12	26

YEAR	Mandarin Chinese 1	Mandarin Chinese 2	Mandarin Chinese 3	Mandarin Chinese 3H	Mandarin Chinese 4	Mandarin Chinese 4H
17-18	29	28	4	14	3	24
18-19	23	20	6	14	2	11
19-20	19	21	4	13	1	9
20-21	15	19	7	14	2	9

YEAR	French 2	French 3	French 4	French 4H	French 5	French 5H/AP
17-18	29	26	6	11	1	17
18-19	37	21	6	11	1	3
19-20	30	29	3	16	0	9
20-21	43	29	6	19	0	9

YEAR	Latin 1	Latin 2	Latin 3	Latin 3H	Latin 4	Latin 4H/AP
17-18	41	29	21	14	13	8
18-19	58	37	12	13	8	7
19-20	77	49	17	14	9	5
20-21	66	64	25	16	15	4

WMS ENROLLMENT 2016-2021

Year	Grade 6 French	Grade 7 French	Grade 8 French
17-18	61	48	53
18-19	61	59	44
19-20	54	65	59
20-21	59	53	63

Year	Grade 6 Spanish	Grade 7 Spanish	Grade 8 Spanish
17-18	113	117	116
18-19	111	116	119
19-20	95	102	115
20-21	97	118	99

WHS AP SCORES

Year	French 5H/AP			Latin 4H/AP			Spanish 6 AP		
	Enrollment	# of Exams	Avg.Score	Enrollment	# of Exams	Avg.Score	Enrollment	# of Exams	Avg.Score
2016-17	17	15	3.33	4	5	2.6	28	28	4.57
2017-18	17	17	3.24	8	4	3.75	23	22	4.36
2018-19	3	2	4.5	7	4	4	23	22	4.82
2019-20	9	6	3.33	5	5	2.8	16	15	4.13
2020-21	9			4			26		

WORLD LANGUAGE CREDITS EARNED

Graduating Class	Number of Students per Category					
	0 WL Credit	1 WL Credit	2 WL Credits	3 WL Credits	4 WL Credits	5 or More WL Credits
2016	2	18	22	56	99	20
2017	0	12	27	52	87	35
2018	3	10	12	57	102	23
2019	0	15	29	82	67	16
2020	1	13	24	87	49	9

Curriculum Committee Meeting

January 13, 2021 9:00 a.m.

Via Zoom

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 am

Present Committee Members:

Taffy Miller (Chairperson), Hillary Koyner, Gina Albert

Present Administration:

William McKersie, Ph.D., Superintendent; Kenneth Craw, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent; Lisa Wolak, WHS Principal; Dan Doak, WMS Principal; Pattie Falber, WIS Principal; Laura Kaddis, HES Principal; Carolyn Vinton, CIL K-5 Math & Science; Alex Bluestein, CIL K-5 ELA & Social Studies; Andrea Noble; CIL K-5 ELA & Social Studies; Christine Cincotta, CIL 6-8 English Language Arts; Janine Russo, CIL 6-8 Math

Members of the Public:

Anthony Pesco, Ruby Hedge, Melissa Walker, Kate Graham, Kristana Esslinger

2. Gauging Progress Presentation and Discussion

Discussion:

- Dr. Craw presented on a NPR Report on NWEA testing. Generally, students across the country showed growth in math and reading, although math was not as strong as reading.
- Ms. Noble discussed grades K-2 reading progress thus far for this school year. In the beginning of the year, there were more students than normal requiring reading intervention, especially grade 1. Overall, the gaps in first grade are closing and fewer students are requiring intervention; second grade is also doing well.
- Ms. Bluestein discussed reading progress for grades 3-5. The fall reading data showed more students than normal not meeting benchmark across the grade levels. The department provided SRBI professional development for all teachers to mitigate this and students are progressing.
- Ms. Cincotta spoke on grades 6-12 English Language Arts. Teachers are aiming their skills on differentiating instruction, and are focused on the essential skills, meeting the students where they are and moving them forward.
- Principal Wolak reported that at the high school level they are tracking and analyzing the data to inform who needs intervention.
- Ms. Vinton spoke on K-5 math progress. Teachers started the year with topics that students would have confidence in and did not spend time re-teaching. The State provided guidance on what topics to focus on. She reported that students are learning and making progress; data from progress reports is where it should be.
- Ms. Russo reported on grades 6-12 math. Teachers have focused more on the formative assessments and being engaged in the learning rather than the summative assessments. The NWEA was administered. The scores were only slightly lower than the previous year; 75-

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80% of our students are exactly where they needed to be. The intervention teacher is meeting with each grade to determine the need of in-classroom or out-of-classroom intervention.

3. Math Program Updates and Discussion

Discussion:

- Mrs. Russo spoke on middle school math. For the current year, grade 6 math did not run a pre-algebra class. She said she expects a cohort to accelerate to grade 7 algebra next year based on data from assessments and extension and enrichment activities. She expects to run the program the same way in 2021-22 for rising grade 5 students. Mrs. Vinton agreed with this decision.
- Board members discussed tracking these cohorts past the pandemic.
- Committee members discussed the value of multiple measures in the Weston School District and Ms. Miller requested that gauging progress be on the agenda again in March.

4. Follow up curricular questions regarding any budget-related items

Discussion:

- Committee members discussed their objection to the proposed deferment of the K-2 world language program for FY 22.
- Committee also had follow up questions on the math intervention FTE reductions.

5. Approval of December 2020 Minutes

Motion Passed: With a motion by Gina Albert and second by Hillary Koyner the December 2020 minutes were approved.

3 Yeas - 0 Nays.

6. Other curricular issues

Discussion:

No other items were put forth for discussion. Meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

June Curiano