



Curriculum Committee Meeting - Academic Year in Review  
Tuesday, June 3, 2025  
3:00 PM  
Weston Middle School Library Learning Commons  
135 School Road  
Weston, CT 06883

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- I. Call to order
- II. Approval of May 2025 meeting minutes
- III. 2025 Academic Year in Review
  - Introduction (Structure of Presentation)
    - CIL Vision, mission and major focus of work
  - K-12 Presentations
  - Gallery Walk and Artifact Review
  - Synthesis and BOE Share Out
    - What did you appreciate?
    - What are you still wondering about?
  - Next Steps
- IV. Adjournment

## **Curriculum Committee Meeting**

April 2, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

Via Zoom

### Present Committee Members:

David Felton (Chairperson), Lisa Luft, Chap Hoeppe

### Present Administration:

Deborah Low, Acting Superintendent; Tina Henckel, Ed.D, Assistant Superintendent; Meghan Conetta, WHS Principal; Dan Doak, WMS Principal; Pattie Falber, WIS Principal; Andrea Noble, K-2 ELA and Social Studies CIL; Alex Bluestein, 3-5 ELA and Social Studies CIL; Shawna Johnson, 6-8 Social Studies CIL

### Members of the Public:

Judy Meadows

## **1. Call to Order**

The meeting called to order at 9:33 a.m.

### Discussion:

Mr. Felton reviewed the general purpose of the Curriculum Committee meeting and the virtual meeting norms.

## **2. Approval of April 2025 meeting minutes**

Motion Passed: Move that the Curriculum Committee approve the April 2025 meeting minutes. This motion made by Lisa Luft and seconded by David Felton

**3 Yeas – 0 Nays**

## **3. Curriculum Updates**

### Discussion:

Dr. Henckel opened the meeting with academic highlights and updates about recent and upcoming events in Weston Public Schools:

- Earth Day activities – Dr. Henckel reviewed some of the highlight of Earth Day activities in the schools such as clean ups, recycling, an Earth Day rally at the high school and a guest speaker at Weston Intermediate School.
- Art Jam – scheduled for May 15, celebrating student art and music across all schools.
- Jewish American Heritage Month – specific plans are still being developed at each school; principals will share details in their weekly updates.
- World Cultural Diversity Day – May 21.
- Mental Health Awareness Month
- Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, supported by PTOs.
- Weston’s AI Advisory Committee has drafted a policy and guiding principles for AI in education; feedback from staff will be gathered in May.
- The upcoming June Curriculum Committee meeting is set for June 3 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the middle school library; the agenda is to present the Academic Year in Review.

#### **4. District Writing Curriculum**

##### Discussion:

- Dr. Henckel introduced the curriculum leaders presenting an overview of writing instruction across Weston Public Schools K-12. Curriculum Leaders Alex Bluestein, Andrea Noble and Shawna Johnson presented curriculum design principles, displayed student writing progressions and discussed future priorities for literacy integration and writing development.
- Curriculum leaders spoke on the District writing mission and listed core writing instructional practices.
- Each CIL gave a grade-level overview of curriculum integration examples such as opinion, narrative and argument writing in the elementary grades. They spoke on the middle school and high writing focus and progressions. They emphasized the vertical alignment across grades and schools K-12.
- Student writing samples from K through 12 were shared to show progression in grammar, structure, complexity and voice. Expectations for structure and academic tone increase through middle and high school. The ELA and Social Studies departments coordinate at the secondary level to align writing expectations.
- Dr. Henckel emphasized the importance of board-supported resources like Heggerty and ARC, and the need to show how reading and writing development are deeply linked.
- Committee members expressed the need to teach more practical forms of writing such as business letters, emails, and opinion pieces. Teachers noted that high school students already learn to write resumes, cover letters, and even draft legislation in government class. Middle school students are learning to write polished emails, and younger students often write for causes or events.
- The group also discussed whether the district gathers feedback from graduates to understand how well they feel prepared for college-level writing.

#### **5. Weston Connect: A Community Skills and Networking Database**

This agenda item was not discussed due to time limitations

#### **6. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
June Curiano