

CURRICULUM ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 17, 2021

Zoom Invitation- 5:45 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Joy Greenstein, Jen Laden, and Michael Murphy, Board of Education
Debbie Farias, Director of Instruction and Maureen Ruby, Assistant Superintendent

The meeting was called to order by Jen Laden at 5:48 p.m.

Firearm Safety Education discussion: The Board received written communication concerning the topic of *firearm safety education*. A discussion regarding the communication received and BOE Chairperson Fernandes' information on the topic as received from the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education ensued. The subcommittee discussed the importance of the topic. It was decided that more information should be gathered regarding how other districts in Connecticut are addressing this concern and possible formats for including *firearm safety education* in an appropriate and efficacious manner in the curriculum. This topic will be revisited in the 2021-22 school year.

Classroom library book purchases: The Board has received inquiries regarding the purchase of classroom library materials. A discussion on the procedure for the purchase of classroom library books was led by Dr. Ruby. Classroom library materials are selected by classroom teachers in collaboration with building leadership, literacy teachers, and library media specialists. Classroom libraries are not the curriculum. Texts are selected to support the curriculum. This means that teachers select grade-appropriate texts that complement the topics addressed in the content areas. Classroom libraries have always been selected with the intention to engage and support all students in developing their reading skills and expanding their background knowledge. Teachers make every effort to include authors of varying demographics and books that are inclusive of global cultures and themes in efforts to support students in seeing themselves in texts, as well as learning about other people and places. Given the collaborative nature of book selection, an additional vetting layer is not a part of the process of procuring classroom library books.

Summer:

The subcommittee will not meet during July and August.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Ruby