

**Suffield Board of Education
Teaching & Learning Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
March 31, 2016 – 8:00am
Central Office Conference Room**

Present: Karen Berasi, Brian Hendrickson, Erin Larkum, Steve Moccio, Nancy Taylor, Lori D'Ostuni, Susi Keane, Natalie Semyanko, Jeanne Gee

I. Call to Order 8:10 a.m.

II. Course Approvals Suffield High School Special Education

The Subcommittee:

1. reviewed course proposals for Literacy Skills, Numeracy Skills, Life Skills Education, Social Skills and Social Skills - Pragmatics
2. discussed costs, prerequisites, class sizes, faculty, impact on students
3. discussed student credit accumulation and student success rate
4. determined to move above course offerings to full BoE for April 5th meeting

Esther Boake-Datthey and Chris Cosma arrived at 9:01 a.m.

Nancy Taylor and Erin Larkum left at 9:02 a.m.

III. Suffield High School Math Resources

The committee reviewed request and timeline for Algebra I, Geometry & Algebra II textbooks. Current core texts online subscriptions have lapsed and textbooks are outdated (about 18 years). Larson Big Ideas and Pearson Common Core will be piloted.

Steve Moccio, Esther Boake-Datthey and Chris Cosma left at 9:34 a.m.

Damon Pearce arrived at 9:35 a.m.

IV. Suffield Middle School Schedule Update for 2016 - 2017

Damon Pearce presented the new schedule as follows:

- Equalized teaching loads for all UA teachers.
- Place the entire building on a trimester reporting period (other than 3 high school courses).
- Remove the three day rotation; operate on Monday-Friday schedule.
- Increase Unified Arts rotations by two days.
- Create consistent rosters for gym/health teachers for the entire year.
- Move Band and Chorus into the regular day schedule as well as in FLEX, increasing ensemble practice to two or three times a week.

Mark Janick and Kris Price arrived at 9:42 a.m.

V. PEDEC Update on Teacher Evaluation and Growth Plan

The committee reviewed the new Observation Cycle and the Flexibility Guidelines. Data will be stored in TalentEd software.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.