



## **Instruction Subcommittee Special Meeting**

Monday, April 17, 2023 5:30 PM

Board Meeting Room  
Administrative Offices  
137 B Glenwood Road  
Clinton, CT 06413

*Purpose of the Instruction Subcommittee: Reviews and provides input to the decision-making related to all instructional learning initiatives, curriculum and programming decisions, and implementation of legislation related to curriculum.*

Attendance Taken at 5:30 PM.

Erica Gelven: Present (arrived at 5:36 PM)

Peter Nye: Present

Catherine Staunton: Present (arrived at 5:38 PM)

### **1. Opening Exercises**

#### **A. Roll call**

Also present were Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, Director of Technology Frank Rossi, Joel Principal Angela Guarascio, Morgan Assistant Principal Christopher Luther, and Joel Teacher Kristen Yahwak. Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell arrived at 5:50 PM.

#### **B. Pledge of Allegiance**

All participants stood and recited the pledge.

### **2. Team Teaching Concept for Grades 3-4 Discussion**

Fourth-grade teacher K. Yahwak and Assistant Superintendent M. Famiglietti presented an overview of a teaming approach to instruction at the elementary level. This included a review of the research on elementary teaming, teaming models, implementation considerations, other local districts' approaches, and the potential benefits to student learning and achievement. It was shared that a teaming model is under consideration for grades 3 and 4 next year at Joel. The subcommittee members asked questions and discussed the benefits and considered the challenges to the model. It was noted that the final determination would be related to the development of a schedule to support the proposed models and the anticipated needs of students. Utilizing staff and expertise to effectively address student learning needs is the most important factor in the final decision on the model to be implemented. The Board discussed the need to clearly communicate with all stakeholders, including the what and the rationale for meeting student needs.

### **3. EL Education Literacy Program for Grades K-8**

M. Famiglietti provided an overview of the recent professional development that teachers attended for the new EL program. The rollout is scheduled to begin on April 24. He will be sharing a letter with parents of students in grades K-8 to inform them of the curriculum process and pilot of the new materials this spring.

#### **4. Joel & Morgan Master Schedule Revision Update**

Assistant Principal C. Luther provided an update and overview of the new high school schedule for the 2023-2024 school year. The new schedule helps students to meet the increase in total credits associated with the new state graduation requirements and increases the opportunity for elective choices within a student's schedule. Mr. Luther discussed the schedule development process and the input of staff to work through the challenges and develop a schedule that effectively meets the needs of students and staff in the district.

#### **5. New Course Offerings at Morgan**

C. Luther provided a brief description of the new elective courses being offered at Morgan for the 2023-2024 school year in the areas of Social Studies, Career and Tech Education, Physical Education, and Music.

#### **6. ChatGPT Discussion**

Director of Technology Frank Rossi shared information on ChatGPT and its potential impacts on education. The subcommittee members explored the way ChatGPT works, its benefits and challenges to learning, and discussed policy, data privacy, and creative ways to use the new artificial intelligence technology to enhance student critical-thinking and learning.

#### **7. General Discussion**

#### **8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted by M. Famiglietti