



**Twinsburg City School District**  
**Curriculum/Technology Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**October 18, 2021 6:00-7:30 PM**  
**Twinsburg High School - LGI**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Role of the District Curriculum/Technology Committee, **Jennifer Farthing**, Director of Curriculum
  - A sub-committee of the BOE consisting of parents, teachers, BOE members, community members, and administration
  - Evaluated and piloted materials are presented; once approved, they are recommended to the Board for final approval, followed by professional development for teachers and implementation
  - Meetings are held four times during the year
3. District Curriculum Updates
  - New Staff Members - Alex Popovich, Curriculum Supervisor and Dana Kennedy, Secretary to the Director of Curriculum
  - District's Five Year Strategic Plan - Board of Education held a work session last week and are hopeful the Board will approve the goals for the 2021-2022 school year at the next board meeting on October 18, 2021. Our committee will focus on 21<sup>st</sup> Century teaching, learning, culture and climate.
  - Summer Reading Camp and Extra Scoop Tutoring - Goal: Boost reading skills prior to school starting. Held During July/August. Approximately 80 K-6 graders attended.
  - National Assessment Day – Held last Wednesday. Sophomores took Pre-ACT and juniors took PSAT.
  - Professional Development – Busy this year with several varied topics. Looking forward to Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> when staff members will have collaboration time in their professional learning communities.
  - New Mathematics for Math 7-PreCalculus and new texts for Science and high school electives. Teachers are working on pacing and mapping.
  - New certified evaluation system – OTES 2.0

Adoption of Freshman Success Course of Study revision at Twinsburg High School. **Joshua Harris**, Freshman Success Teacher, Twinsburg High School. Focus: Self Exploration, Creativity, and Student Centered

- Class is two quarters long – either 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Standards: Social Emotional Learning, Financial Literacy, and ELA Presentation.
- Committee member asked for cursive handwriting be part of the curriculum.

The Committee voted unanimously to present the revision of the Success Course of Study to the Board for approval.

Adoption of *Felix Ever After* by Kacen Callender for Social Justice in Literature by Balzer + Bray, copyright 2020. ISBN: 9780062820259. **Megan Holzheimer**, English Teacher

- Young adult novel

- Add to the Social Justice curriculum which focuses on different social justice issues each quarter: African American Experience, Women's Experience, LGBTQ+, and Immigrant Experience.
- Open to Juniors and Seniors – approximately 13 students in the class and hoping for more next year
- Committee member asked if parents/students are aware of the curriculum prior to signing up – yes
- Committee member asked if an alternate title could be selected – yes

The Committee voted unanimously to present title to the Board for approval.

4. Adoption of *The 57 Bus* by Dashka Slater for Social Justice in Literature by Farrar, Straus and Giroux, copyright 2017. ISBN: 9780374303235. **Megan Holzheimer**, English Teacher.
  - Based on a true story
  - Add to the Social Justice curriculum which focuses on different social justice issues each quarter: African American Experience, Women's Experience, LGBTQ+, and Immigrant Experience.
  - Introduction to many on the use of pronouns
  - Topics in the book are reflective of society today – mental health, bullying, classes, etc.

The Committee voted unanimously to present title to the Board for approval.

5. Adoption of the Early Learning and Development Standards, Andrea C. Walker, Director of Student Wellness.
  - Early learning standards that reach the whole child and even our youngest learners.
  - Continue to adjust teaching to learn during a pandemic
  - Last year K-12 Social and Emotional Learning was adopted, this year adding Pre-K with approval
  - Committee member asked what training would be provided to staff. Dr. Walker answered, restorative – identify issues, talk through them and come to a resolution
  - Committee member suggested including parents in the process of restorative practices

The Committee voted unanimously to present Early Learning and Development Standards to the Board for approval.

6. Academy Update, **Alex Popovich**, Curriculum Supervisor.
  - Scheduled events update – scheduling Academy students to visit area corporations who are partners with the Academy for students to attend STEM events. Reuter-Stokes arranging an in-house immersive experience in their Marketing, Engineering, and Human Resources departments in May. Dates are planned during the school year to come on campus and work with students on special STEM oriented projects they have developed. Looking to arrange other visits with other partners in the area. Other partners include Case Western Reserve and have their physician assistant student's work with our students. Always looking to grow our partnerships with area organizations.
  - Senior Experience Project – working to revamp the senior experience project to a year-long, 2-credit course, and ending with a cap stone event focusing on career exploration.
  - Career Readiness Curriculum Update – starting with older students first and working down to our youngest. Focusing on career exploration and readiness so students are ready to Enroll, Enlist, or Employ at the time of graduation. The next meeting will be held November 2, 2021 and watch for more updates at our next Curriculum meeting on January 24, 2022.

## 7. Adjourn

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Upcoming Meeting: January 24, 2022 (New date!)

Please contact me with questions, ideas, or concerns:  
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*Thank you for your participation!*