



**Twinsburg City School District  
Curriculum/Technology Committee Meeting Minutes  
October 16, 2023 6:00-7:30 PM  
Twinsburg High School – LGI**

Welcome and updates, **Jennifer Farthing**, Director of Curriculum and Technology

- K-3 Literacy: working on the mCLASS rollout
- Monitoring the continual changes with Budget Bill Mandates
- Professional Development Day – November 7, 2023
- Focus on planning for 2024-2025 school year

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

Adoption of *AP Computer Science A (JAVA)* for Intro/Honors JAVA Programming course, published by ZyBooks: A Wiley Brand. **Donna Houston**, Business Teacher.

- Online books with labs, cloud-based
- Includes participation activities for homework
- Auto-graded
- Used at many area colleges

Adoption of *Programming in C++* for Computer Programming C++ course, published by ZyBooks: A Wiley Brand. **Donna Houston**, Business Teacher.

- Online books with labs, cloud-based
- Includes participation activities for homework
- Auto-graded assignments
- Used at area colleges

**Tabled** the adoption of *2019 World Geography: Eastern World Student Edition* for 6<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, copyright 2018. ISBN:9780544669338. **Jamee Markulis**, Social Studies Teacher. Includes 6-year online access subscription.

- Selected for its online platform, updated terms and vocabulary, and supports blended learning
- Compatible with Google Classroom
- Appealing to a variety of learners and learning styles
- Encourages higher level thinking skills
- Frequently updated materials
- After a brief discussion about ODE changing curriculum for Social Studies, it was decided to revisit the adoption of the textbook and online platform at a future meeting

Adoption of Adaptive Art Course of Study. **Ashley Tornow**, Art Teacher.

- Student mentors are assigned to peers from Mr. Socrates and Mrs. Todd's classrooms
- Mentors are assessed on SEL standards through weekly discussion and reflections

Adoption of Adaptive PE Course of Study. **Spencer Genos**, PE Teacher.

- Student mentors are assigned to peers from Mr. Socrates and Mrs. Todd's classrooms
- Students are assessed on their relationship with their peers and their active role in the class (guide new skills, set up modified equipment, and helps keep peers focused)

Modification of a current course, Drama and Advanced Drama, to Workshop in Creativity Course and Advanced Workshop in Creativity Course. **Ryan Merriman**, English Teacher.

- Combine creative writing and drama using themes from drama classes
- Project based learning class with presentations to an audience
- Collaborative learning utilizing peer review and critique
- Final project – A showcase presented to an audience
- Course of Study will be presented for approval in January

Adoption of *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover for Social Justice in Literature Reserved Reading List published by Random House, copyright 2022. ISBN: 9780399590528. **Megan Holzheimer**, English Teacher.

- Option for summer reading (continued exposure to informational texts)
- Told from the perspective of a woman growing up in a survivalist, Mormon family in Idaho
- Explores the topics of class, gender, socio-economic status, and poverty
- Starts their senior year off with a discussion on education in an engaging and meaningful way

Adoption of *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini for Social Justice in Literature Reserved Reading List published by Riverhead Books, copyright 2008. ISBN: 9781594483851. **Megan Holzheimer**, English Teacher.

- Two women in war torn Afghanistan are married to the same abusive husband
- Takes place in 1960's – 2000's
- Option for 2nd unit of study: Women's experience
- Told from the perspective of two Afghani women
- Explores the topics of gender roles, marriage, tradition, and family in Afghanistan
- Demonstrates how the protagonists' different views reflect cultural changes in Afghanistan as the traditional society gradually becomes more modern

Financial Literacy Update, 2024-2025 and 2025-2026, **Alex Popovich**, Curriculum Supervisor

- Class of 2026 and beyond will require one-half credit of Financial Literacy during or after 9<sup>th</sup> grade year
- Financial Literacy will be taught to the classes of 2026 and 2027 during the 2024-2025 year
- Freshman Success course will no longer be a requirement for Freshman beginning with the class of 2028 and beyond

Federal Grants Public Hearing **Ryan Bandiera**, Director of Pupil Services, and **Alex Popovich**, Curriculum Supervisor.

Title I: \$316,915	IDEA-6B: \$847,822
Title II-A: \$72,337	IDEA-6B – Early Childhood: \$21,136
Title III: \$19,948	Stronger Connections Grand – FY24 Only: \$25,929
Title IV-A: \$26,809	

---

Upcoming Meetings: January 22, 2024, April 8, 2024, and June 3, 2024

Please contact me with questions, ideas, or concerns:  
Jennifer Farthing, Director of Curriculum, 330.486.2015  
jfarthing@twinsburgcsd.org

*Thank you for your participation!*