



**BELCHERTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
March 8, 2016**

- PLACE:** Swift River Elementary School Library
- TIME:** 6:30 p.m.
- SUBCOMMITTEE:** Dr. Michael Knapp, Chair (present); Dr. Thomas Laughner, Member (present)
- ADMINISTRATION:** Dr. Shawn Fortin, Director of Teaching & Learning
- VISITORS:**

**Minutes**

- I. Call Subcommittee Meeting to order  
Dr. Knapp called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
- II. Acceptance of Minutes
  - A. November 10, 2015  
Motion: Dr. Laughner moved to accept the minutes as presented.  
Second: Dr. Knapp  
Vote: 2,0,0
- III. Public comment regarding items on the agenda  
There were no public comments regarding items on the agenda.
- IV. Items for action/Discussion
  - A. Curriculum review cycle
    1. Science & Technology/Engineering  
Dr. Fortin presented the update. They have started a multi-year curriculum review. Started with #1 and #2 frameworks, draft came out 3 years ago. Standards accepted in January by state. Technology and engineering standards in the MCAS 2019 test. These are PreK – 12.
    2. Digital Literacy & Computer Science  
Standards released by the state, they are proposed not adopted. These standards would include programming, typing, research, and digital citizenship. This would be limited by the technology available to the schools.

#### B. MA Math & ELA Frameworks

Frameworks for Social Studies and Music next year, then Math and Foreign Language after. Looking to work on 1 -2 curricula each year.

Currently math standards are not common core. Common Core may be repealed by the state.

#### C. Assessment

##### 1. DDM Update

Dr. Fortin noted all the DDMs for the district collected in a database. There is a lack of professional development and they are out of time this year. He is looking for time to provide feedback of DDMs to the teachers.

Subcommittee discussed formative assessments, portfolio assessments, program assessment, high quality assessments for data, and how to integrate assessments. Dr. Fortin noted the district will be taking PARCC next year with the BHS using MCAS. Many districts that used online PARCC last year are switching to paper this year. Dr. Laughner questioned when the hybrid MCAS would be out. Dr. Fortin noted it should be next school year with an online based test.

##### 2. PARCC/MCAS update

Dr. Knapp asked about a data dashboard. Dr. Fortin noted there are pockets of data everywhere but we don't currently have that dashboard. Dr. Fortin is looking on PD to make the best use of data teams. He is looking to make sure we are collecting good data and put it in place to use. Dr. Knapp referenced back to 2008 paperwork that had similar recommendations as the current recommendations. The subcommittee discussed how to communicate to the public areas of concern and how information gets shared during school transitions.

#### D. Goals/Future direction

Dr. Laughner noted things for discussion;

- open ed resources
- flipped classrooms – Dr. Fortin noted blended learning
- learning space changes
- portfolios
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade honors math

Committee noted to discuss at next meeting, open ed resources.

#### E. Question of expanding membership

Dr. Fortin questioned if the subcommittee would like anyone invited. The committee did not suggest at this time.

#### V. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business at this time.

Next meeting is scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup>.

- VI. Subcommittee correspondence  
A. Agenda, March 8, 2016  
B. Minutes, November 10, 2015
- VII. Adjourn  
Motion: Dr. Laughner moved to adjourn at 7:10 pm  
Second: Dr. Knapp  
Vote: 2,0,0

Respectfully submitted by,

Ramona Griffin  
Non-Confidential Recording Secretary to the School Committee

School Committee members' signatures:

 \_\_\_\_\_, Michael Knapp, Chair

 \_\_\_\_\_, Thomas Laughner, Member

*The mission of the Belchertown Public Schools is to ensure that every student meets with success every day. To that end, we pledge to ensure that we have rigorous, standards-based curriculum; instruction designed to meet the needs of diverse learners in every classroom; and access to the global learning community via state-of-the-art technology in schools that are communities of respect and civility for all.*

The Belchertown Personnel & Policy Subcommittee conducts its business in open session pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The public is welcome to comment only on items on the agenda for this meeting as noted above. If you wish to address the School Committee regarding an item not on the agenda for this meeting, please contact the Superintendent of Schools, at 413.323.0423 or via email at [superintendent@belchertown.org](mailto:superintendent@belchertown.org) to determine the best way to address your concerns.

