



**BELCHERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
April 28, 2015**

LOCATION: Swift River Elementary School

TIME: 6:30 pm

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Dr. Michael Knapp, Chair(present); Ms. Dawn French, Member(present)

ADMINISTRATION: Mrs. Karol Coffin, Superintendent of Schools(present); Mr. Brian Cameron, Assistant Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services(present); Mr. Edward Dunn, Contracted School Business Manager(present); Ms. Christine Vigneux, BHS Principal;

VISITORS: Kyle Landrio, BHS Math Department Chair; Ben Admussen, Data Admin; Debra Davidsohn, BHS Guidance Counselor; Maggie Folli, BHS Guidance Counselor;

Minutes

- I. Call to order
Dr. Knapp called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

- II. Public comment regarding items on the agenda
There were no public comments regarding items on the agenda.

- III. Approval of minutes
 - A. December 16, 2014, Minutes
Motion: Ms. French moved to accept the December 16, 2014 minutes as presented.
Second: Dr. Knapp
Vote: 2,0,0

- IV. Items for discussion and action
 - A. Mathematics curriculum
Motion: Ms. French moved to approve the new Math 10 curriculum.
Second: Dr. Knapp
Vote: 2,0,0
Discussion: Mr. Landrio, Math chair at BHS, presented the Math 10 Honors curriculum. Math 9 Honors is completed with Math 11 Honors to be worked on next. There are 3 main components including, algebra, geometry, and statistics which are a pathway to calculus. Dr. Knapp questioned the difference in Math and Math honors. Mr. Landrio noted that they diverge a little more each year. The material is the same but the honors program has more difficult problems. Math 9 Honors has about 3 areas with differences than Math 9. Mr. Landrio spoke to the process of entering into the honors program, part of the process is meeting with Mr. Landrio. He also noted that he is in contact with the JBMS staff to discuss the transition to 9th

grade math.

B. Honors Math 8 enrollment

Dr. Knapp noted a concern that only 22% of Belchertown High School students take AP Calculus which is below the state average. He questioned the transition policy. Currently JBMS has a 22 student cap per honors class of which there are 2. Dr. Knapp questioned, should the Subcommittee take a closer look? Superintendent Coffin noted that currently there are discussions going on about the math honors system. Ms. French questioned the current Math track, whether the new curriculum would make it easier for students to enter the honors system. Mr. Landrio explained that while last year there were issues with the new track and how to apply it, currently the next class entering 9th grade will have the choice of Applied Math, Math 9 or Honors Math 9 without the confusion. Dr. Knapp would like to suggest the School Committee look at recommending an Honors math track for grades 6,7,8, & 9. Mr. Cameron noted that there were talks last year about honors 7 being added for next year and honors 6 the following year.

The subcommittee mk

VIII. Correspondence

- A. April 28, 2015 Agenda
- B. December 16, 2015, Minutes
- C. Mathematics Curriculum

XI. Adjourn

Motion: Ms. French moved to adjourn at 6:55 pm.
 Second: Dr. Knapp
 Vote: 2,0,0

Respectfully submitted by,

Ramona Griffin

Non-Confidential Recording Secretary to the School Committee

Curriculum & Instruction Subcommittee members' signatures:

Michael Knapp, Michael Knapp, Chair

_____, Dawn French, 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.

2011-2015 Strategic Plan Goals (adopted by the Belchertown School Committee, 3/1/11):

- Goal #1: To have guaranteed (standards-based and implemented by all), viable (doable and accessible to every student), seamless K-12 curriculum in every content area.
- Goal #2: To have rigorous (standards-based), relevant (grounded in 21st Century skills), differentiated instructional practices with the ability to access the global learning community via technology available to every learner.
- Goal #3: To implement a plan to ensure that our students understand the importance of acceptance, tolerance, and respect supported by all adults in the community.

The Belchertown School Committee 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 to determine the best way to address your concerns (see [School Committee Policy BEDH](#)).