



**Dover School
District**

CURRICULUM PLANNING COMMITTEE- MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Type: **Regular Meeting**
Meeting Location: **Room 305, McConnell Center**
Meeting Date: **April 2, 2015**
Meeting Time: **3:30 PM**

The Curriculum Planning Committee Meeting was called to order on April 2, 2015 at 3:30 PM in Room 305 of the McConnell Center

Attendees: Paula Glynn, Patty Driscoll, George Dailey, Emily Sherman, Peter Driscoll, Beth Dunton, Kim Lyndes, Mike Russo, Louise Paradis, Beth Dunton, Fran Meffen, Matt Johnson, Sarah Greenshields, Carol Finn, Nancy Colarusso, Patrick Boodey and STEAM Academy student representatives.

1. Welcome and Introductions.
2. Beth Dunton moved, George Dailey seconded to approve minutes from 3/05/15 meeting. An oral **VOTE PASSED** unanimously.

Discussions/Decisions

The norm of probing was selected for this meeting.

STEM teachers Carol Finn and Nancy Colarusso presented K-4 units to analyze for gaps. They focused on inquiry and engineering, using *Science Fusion* as a guide to examine inquiry at all grade levels. After this year, students have a better understanding of the skills and tool that scientists use which is an improvement over the Foss materials that did not include the nature of science. Students also started working on the differences and similarities between scientists and engineers.

The STEM program is new (4 years old) and the curriculum was written by 3 teachers who are no longer here. There are three new teachers creating curriculum for the STEAM Academy, which is currently an after school program at the Middle School. Materials for review (sand, rock, oil, cell phones) and asked about value of each to illustrate the value of STEAM, statistics on STEM job growth and earning potential.

UBD is used to design a strategy, gain knowledge, use trial and error, and inspire internal motivation with students.

Standards: Common Core and NGSS are the foundation of STEAM inquiry questions.

How do we provide additional access for students?

Pilot a program at grades 5-6, offer professional development for teachers, leverage existing STEAM Academy knowledge.

There is no school budget for this, but has partners in the community including businesses and UNH.

STEAM members presented about the value of their participation in these programs.



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DMS Science teacher Matt Johnson provided a Dover Middle School STEM update:
-all DMS classes are integrating STEM into regular curriculum by integrating the eight practices of science and engineering
-challenges: science kits that don't include much inquiry
-emphasis on group work and communication
Grade 7-life science
Grade 8-increase in project-based learning and add in physics and engineering

Tech Ed at the middle school is using computer coding and engineering to enhance STEM. Professional development is needed to develop the program. The STEM budget is separate from the science budget. Department meeting time and a district science coordinator are needed to facilitate curriculum development.

CTE: Project-based learning using Project Lead the Way. The high school has opportunities for computer programming and not as much interest as we would expect with the momentum from the middle school programs due to the program challenges of grades 11-12. There are concerns over the STEAM workgroup and if it is emphasizing K-12 collaboration. There are also concerns over staff movement when training needs are emphasized and then valuable human assess are lost. Vision for future 21st skills

Next month: Health and Wellness and Guidance on May 7, 2015. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.