

ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

The March 18, 2026 Curriculum Committee meeting was called to order by Ms. Brocuglio at 5:00 PM.

Present: Roberta Kiner, Rosalee Brocuglio, Dean Gousse

Absent: None

Also present: Janet Cushman, Mark Dube, Michelle Middleton

Audience: Cheryl Gustafson

Teen Leadership at JFK

Mr. Dube presented the committee with an overview of the Teen Leadership course that will be offered at the middle school beginning in the 2026-2027 school year. This offering is budget dependent. The current budget presented to Town Council contains a 1.0 FTE in Physical Education and Health at the middle school. If approved, this position will lower the class sizes in some sections of PE/Health. It will also offer this Teen Leadership, Leadworthy Curriculum, as an additional middle school elective. This will either be a quarter or a semester elective, depending upon scheduling. If it is a quarter elective, it will be paired with a new STEAM elective being added that students will take for the other half of the semester. If it is a quarter class, it will allow more students the opportunity to take it. The disadvantage would be that teachers would not be able to go as in depth into the content.

The curriculum focuses on core leadership and life skills. Some examples shared by Mr. Dube were personal responsibility and self-concept, public speaking, decision-making and goal setting, health relationships and conflict resolution, and bullying prevention and peer pressure resistance. The committee liked that the course includes content on cyberbullying. The committee asked how this course will impact the high school courses. Mr. Dube explained that the company, the Flippen Group, has curriculum that is appropriate for the intermediate, middle, and high school levels. All concepts are scaffolded for the level at which they are being taught. Similar concepts are taught at all levels, but the level of rigor and expectations differs depending upon the grade level.

The committee noticed that there is a subscription fee and asked how that will be handled. Mr. Dube explained there is a \$500 a year fee for the school to access the curriculum and resources. We pay this fee for the high school and added an extra \$500 to the proposed budget to cover the middle school. Mr. Dube also explained that the teacher will need to be trained in Capturing Kids' Hearts. Mr. Dube is a trainer and will train the teacher over the summer, so that is an expense we will not have.

The committee asked how students get evaluated in this course. Mr. Dube explained that there are day-to-day performance evaluations, such as communication, voice as leader, behavior, and participation. The course also contains traditional formative and summative assessments. Students will also write and deliver a variety of speeches in this course. The course is measuring students on a growth experience where they are accountable for their actions in both traditional and nontraditional ways. The committee asked if there are any resources and supports for special education or EL/ML students to access the public speaking aspects of the course. Mr. Dube gave some examples of differentiation and scaffolding that have been used at the high school level that will transfer to the middle school. The committee thanked Mr. Dube for the information. They find this course valuable and are pleased that it is being extended down to the middle school level.

Update on World Language

Ms. Middleton gave a short update on World Language. We cannot find a dual-certified World Language teacher who is able to teach both French and Spanish. Because of this, we will not be offering French at the middle school next year.

Items from the Table

Ms. Brocuglio asked for an update on the scores of Head Start students who are now in kindergarten. Ms. Middleton will try to present that information in May, but if the agenda is too full, she will put it on the June agenda.

The next meeting is on Wednesday, April 29 at 5:00 in Alcorn 213. A discussion about TAG is on the agenda.

Ms. Brocuglio made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Gousse. The meeting was adjourned at 5:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Middleton
Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction