

**Stonington Public Schools
Board of Education
Teaching & Learning Committee
November 26, 2013
Central Office
5:45 PM**

- I. Call to Order - 5:45 pm
Present: Deb Downie, Alexa Garvey, Van Riley, Mark Friese, Nikki Gullickson
Absent: Craig Esposito
Note: Alexa Garvey replaces Alisa Morrison as a BOE committee member
- II. Approval of Nov. 6, 2013 Minutes
Motion: To approve the Minutes from Nov. 6, 2013 meeting was made by Debbie Downie and seconded by Alexa Garvey. Vote: 2 in favor; no nays, no abstentions
- III. Discussion:
- A. Purpose of the Teaching & Learning Committee
- B. Function of the Teaching & Learning Committee
- Review of the 3 Essential questions to guide and focus committee discussion were reprioritized by the committee:
 1. How do we measure (student) success?
 2. As a BOE committee, how can we shape the learning environment to positively impact learning outcomes?
 3. How will we know when we are effective?
- C. Topics/ items relevant to the essential questions include but not limited to:
- The Common Core Standards
 - Curriculum Revision cycle
 - Assessment updates
 - Assessment results
 - Programming needs (Nov. 22 discussion topic)
 - Program Evaluations
 - Special topics as needed
 - Other

Programming Needs (Nov. 22 discussion topic)

Dr. Riley and SHS Assistant Principal Mark Friese presented nine possibilities for alternate instructional programs. These will be presented to the BOE.

- Alternate Education- Transition program. Meeting the needs of students who for various reasons are faced with transitioning back to school. Potential budget impact.
- Work Experience
- Special Education configuration - determining the best options for "the least restrictive environment"
- Academies - formalizing and marketing career paths
- Magnet Programs

- Summer Enrichment programs - consideration for offerings at Stonington's high school and middle school levels as well as for surrounding area students
- Middle School Enrichment - potential coordination with town agencies regarding activities for middle school students
- Academic Field Trips - Principals have been asked to include funds for four local field trips for students in grades K - 8 in their 2014-15 budgets. Potential budget impact.
- Local History Curriculum - partnering with local historic societies

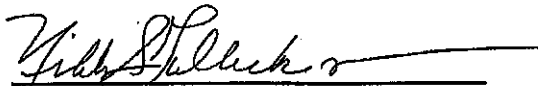
Based on the information presented, the committee possesses the following comments / questions:

- In developing the programs presented, the committee wants to assure that all students have access, particularly when fees are associated with the program. The committee also wonders if special education summer school schedule would prevent Special Ed students from participating in other potential enrichment offerings.
- Would in-town transportation be available for summer programs?
- Are other area districts conducting "alternate" programs for students? If so, what are they doing?
- Is there opportunity to collaborate with other smaller area districts who do not have such programs?

Dec. 12, 2013 BOE meeting reporter: Debbie Downie

Next meeting: TBD

IV. Adjournment - 7:00pm


Nikki Gullickson, Asst. Superintendent