

**BERLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Curriculum Committee Meeting**  
**October 13, 2020**  
**MINUTES**

Attendance: Mr. Richard Aroian, Mrs. Kari Sassu, Chair; Mrs. Jaymee Miller

Also in Attendance: Dr. Erin McGurk, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, and Mrs. Eileen Eustis, Berlin High School Principal

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

**II. BHS Program of Studies - Potential New/Revised Courses:** Mrs. Eustis reviewed proposed changes to the Program of Studies for the 2021-22 school year. Changes are relatively minor for the upcoming year. Several courses will be suspended, based on low enrollment or changes in programming. Two new courses are proposed: Health and Wellness II, which is needed due to the change in state graduation requirements, and Zoology, which will be a new offering in the science department. Some changes are also being made due to changes with the UCONN ECE program. UCONN is no longer offering ECE Digital Media, and Introduction to Sociology may be offered as a UCONN ECE Course.

**Update on Honors Challenge:** Mrs. Eustis shared a packet of materials which included sample Honors Challenge contracts for courses. Currently, about 21 students have taken advantage of this opportunity in the five courses that are running this semester and offering this option. Additional students will have the opportunity to take the Honors Challenge in second semester courses. Mrs. Eustis also explained how the contracts have been adjusted to work in the event that schools move to a distance learning option. The committee also discussed the importance of ensuring that the contracts are equitable and allow opportunities for all students to take the Honors Challenge.

**III. Review Committee Goal and Short Term Objectives:** The committee reviewed the wording of the Board goal and developed the following objectives for the 2020-21 year.

1. Meet with representatives of the math department to learn about proposed changes in the sequence of math courses and offerings
2. Meet with Jean Borrup, EL Coordinator, to learn more about the growing number of English learners in the district, and the services provided to meet their needs
3. Meet with reading and math interventionists to learn more about their coaching and intervention work.

**IV. District Improvement Plan:** Dr. McGurk presented a draft of the 2020-21 District Continuous Improvement Plan and shared some of the priorities for district work in the upcoming year.

**V. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin K. McGurk, Ed.D.  
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction