

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
VIRTUAL CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MINUTES  
September 17, 2020**

The September 17, 2020 Virtual Curriculum Committee meeting was called to order by Mr. LeBlanc 5:31 PM.

**Present:** Jonathan LeBlanc, Bill Salazar and Joyce Hall  
**Absent:** None  
**Also Present:** Walter Kruzel, John Dague and Michelle Middleton

**Virtual Learning Adjustments for Two Courses:**

Mr. Dague outlined adjustments that had to be made to two courses this year due to restrictions put in place because of COVID 19. The first modification was to add a resource to Child Development Lab 1 and Child Development Lab 2. This resource is the companion website and online student workbook that accompany the text used in class. For this year, use of this resource will take the place of the experience of students working with children in preschool and/or daycare settings. Due to the inability to allow for these in-person experiences, teachers needed an additional resource to enhance the curriculum and supplement instruction. We will purchase a site license for this year so that all students that need to will have access. This resource can also be used in Parenting and Child Development if needed.

The other curricular adjustment is being made to our Grade 4 STEAM course. One of the Project Lead the Way units currently addressed in this course is Energy: Collisions. Because this unit requires the use of shared Vex kits, the COVID 19 health and safety restrictions and requirements regarding the cleaning and sanitizing of equipment make implementation of this unit impractical. We are making a one-year change to the course and replacing Energy: Collisions with a new Project Lead the Way unit for Grade 4 – Earth: Human Impact and Natural Disasters. As with Energy and Collisions, this unit still aligns to and supplements the Grade 4 science standards. It also still engages students in the design process. It is less hands on, so it is easier to facilitate if students are fully remote and/or are working asynchronously from home during a hybrid schedule.

Committee members felt this was an important topic for students to study. One member is interested in learning more about this unit.

**Sample Revised Curriculum**

Mr. Dague shared a sample unit, Unit 2: Structure and Properties of Matter, from the newly revised Grade 2 Science curriculum. Much of this document was written a few years ago, but some revisions were made this summer. Part of the summer work was to embed our new science resource, Mystery Science, in the appropriate places within the curriculum. He explained to the committee that science standards work in three-year cycles, so concepts introduced in Grade 2 will be expanded upon in Grade 5, Grade 8, and in high school courses. Mr. Dague pointed out that the curriculum writers modified the instruction section of the document to show how to modify certain lessons for distance learning. These modifications can be used both for students participating remotely during a hybrid day or for full remote instruction. This unit was one of four units for Grade 2 science.

Committee members asked if all the sections of one of the Mystery Science lesson highlighted in this unit would be completed all in one sitting. Mr. Dague explained that this was not necessarily the case. They may do different sections on different days.

Committee members also asked what would happen if a student participating at home did not have all the necessary materials for the lesson. Mr. Dague explained that they are very flexible with the materials and students can substitute as needed. The focus is not on the materials, but the concept being presented.

**Items from the Table:**

The next meeting will be held on October 15.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Middleton  
Chief Academic Officer