

West Islip School District
Education Committee Minutes
November 7, 2019

Education Committee Members:

Mr. Richard Antonello
Mrs. Bernadette Burns
Mrs. Annmarie LaRosa
Mr. Peter McCann
Mrs. Dawn Morrison

- The Education Committee meeting commenced at 7:15 p.m.
- The following Education Committee members were present:

Mr. Richard Antonello, Mrs. Annmarie LaRosa, Mr. Peter McCann

- The following administrators were present:

Mrs. Bernadette Burns, Mrs. Dawn Morrison

- Other members present were:

Mr. Steve Geller, Mr. Tom Compitello, Mr. Paul Michaluk

The following information was discussed:

I. Curriculum Development/Course Proposals for the 2020-2021 School Year:

The Secondary Curriculum Council will meet on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 to review the presentations of staff members that initiated curriculum development/course proposals for the 2020-2021 school year.

II. STEM Update:

The STEM Academy currently has two 9th grade STEM teachers. One teaches a research class, and the other teaches Engineering Technology.

The goal for the 2020-2021 school year is to add *Statistical Analysis and Coding* to our STEM Academy program.

Initiatives are being planned to expand enrollment in the high school STEM Academy, and to continue to raise awareness and enrich our elementary science program with an increased emphasis on coding and technology.

Coding caterpillars (Code-A-Pillars) are on their way to our Kindergarten classrooms. Students will be presented with an age appropriate Phenomena related to the coding of nano-robots that were designed by modeling the motions of real caterpillars. This interactive learning experience will create a real world technology connection for West Islip's youngest engineers.

III. APPR Update

As required by law, all district administrators completed their annual *APPR Recertification Training for Lead Evaluators*.

IV. Google Expeditions

The utilization of *Google Expeditions* in our Library Media Centers throughout the district will provide interactive learning experiences for students as they travel throughout the world - via the use of expedition goggles - without ever having to leave the classroom. The library media specialists in each building were trained this week in regard to the utilization of the application, and look forward to experiencing the wonders of the world with our K-12 students.

III. West Islip High School Update - Dr. Bridgeman

Dr. Bridgeman provided information and insights in regard to initiatives and updated procedures and practices at the high school.

