

West Islip School District
Education Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 6, 2020
7:15 p.m. - District Office Conference Room

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. in the District Office conference room.

-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 Gellar, Mr. Tom Compitello, Mr. Paul Michaluk

-The following information was discussed:

- I. Request for the approval of the following new courses (including curriculum writing) will be made at tonight's Board of Education Meeting:
- Culinary Arts II (FACS)
 - Teen Health & Wellness (Health)
 - Freshman Orchestra (Music)
 - Virtual Enterprise (Business)

Request for the approval of the following course replacement will be made at tonight's Board of Education Meeting:

- *Italian 5AP to Italian 5*

Request for the approval of the following course title change will be made at tonight's Board of Education Meeting:

- *Music Technology to Music Technology & Innovation*

II. Updates:

First Grade Science Professional Development:

1st grade teachers recently participated in a professional development session on the new science standards. They were trained to use Ozobots so their students can incorporate coding to solve a problem. The coding technology was infused into the standards of *Structure, Function and Information Processing*. Their Ozobots will be baby ducks that follow their mom to the safety of a pond. Students will map out coded directions so that the baby ducks (Ozobots), can follow a given path.

Middle School MTSS/RTI Update:

Beach Street Middle School and Udall Road Middle Schools are working on developing the infrastructure for MTSS/RTI (Multi Tier System of Support/Response to Intervention). With the guidance of Dr. Seth Aldrich, from the NYS RTI Middle School Demonstration Grant and Michelle Walsh, the building MTSS/RTI teams have successfully commenced the implementation of the MTSS/RTI process with the addition of bench-marking, progress monitoring and individual problem solving meetings this year. Both buildings are finding the additional assessment information provided by the Aimsweb Plus universal screening tool useful when analyzing student growth and in the determination of appropriate interventions.

High School Science Update:

High school science teachers Diane Munno and Mary Kroll have spearheaded a Management Plan Committee for the Willets Creek Management program. Committee members also include: Ali Nohowec (teacher) , Brian Haldenwang (teacher), Kelly Sepe (teacher), Debbie Langone (Director of Science) and Sam Soevyn (student

representative). The committee will collaborate with the DEC to brainstorm ideas for the future management of the Willets Creek site. Ideas include having the students identify and report the appearance of invasive species, sample and test the groundwater and soil, research and develop educational materials to distribute to the community, etc. All data collected will be shared with the DEC.