

**Exeter Region Cooperative School Board Curriculum and Philosophy Meeting
Tuesday, April 14, 2009**

Board Present: Barbara RigordaEva, Townley Chisholm, Tomasen Carey, Dave Miller, Kate Segal

CMS/EHS Staff and Administration: Cindy Freyberger, Tony Baldasaro, Tom O'Malley, Pam McDonough, Cathy Newcomb, Kevin McQueen, Jim Daley, Marcy Dovholuk

Marcy Dovholuk requested that the first item discussing math at the middle school be put on next month's agenda.

Pam McDonough and Cathy Newcomb discussed High School Guidance Counseling program, services and the history of guidance program in the state and how it has evolved over the last 30 years. In the 1990s programming included classroom presentations, and were beginning to look at guidance as an academic setting vs. therapeutic settings. The most current philosophy is the ASCA National School Counseling model, which looks for evidence of effective curriculum, and how it impacts academic achievement, which includes accountability, delivery system, management system, and foundation. Counselors partner with teachers. For example, the counselors go into the freshman English classes 4 times in the first quarter. Counseling situations arise daily that effect daily responsibilities and challenging situations arise that have to be addressed, along with meeting the other needs. The department would like to revisit Career Center and the services it was originally intended to provide. The committee appreciated the work of all the counselors and recognized their importance in supporting students' academic needs.

Kevin McQueen and Jim Daly presented the high school math program. Integrated math is a three year program which, at the end of three years, offers the equivalent of Algebra 1 and Geometry. Calculus numbers have doubled in the last two years; maybe as a result of more 8th graders taking Algebra at the middle school. Discussion continued on the differences and redesign of some of the courses offered. Discussion also included math labs which assist freshman and sophomores who need additional help with their math skills. School offers math competitions and math peer tutors. The committee commented on the importance of the labs, tutors, and competitions, as well as the different choices students have in order to progress in math. The committee expressed their appreciation of the presentation.

Tony Baldasaro spoke about the district's Adequate Yearly Progress Report. The Middle School did not make AYP for math. The High School did not make AYP for math and reading. The elementary schools all made AYP. Areas for improvement were discussed. The middle school will remain a school in need of improvement. The high school will become a school in need of improvement and therefore the district will become a district in need of improvement, pending appeals. The district will need to complete a district in need of improvement plan.

Other items will be addressed next month.

Barbara RigordaEva made a motion to adjourn at 10:00 PM, which was seconded by Kate Segal. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes taken by,

Kate Segal