

# North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

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Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning  
Monday, June 3, 2013, 9:30 a.m.

## Minutes

### I. Math In Focus

Paul Castiglione (K-5 Math Coordinator) and Tracey Romberg (6-12 Math Coordinator) gave the committee an update on the new math program being implemented/piloted, *Math in Focus*. Mr. Castiglione explained that math is more about conceptual understanding as opposed to rote calculations we often saw in earlier math programs. Students are asked questions to get them to "explain their thinking", to better understand the "why". This is supporting the new standards. Professional Development, zeroing in on the new math program, has enabled teachers on the same grade level across town to meet and have discussion. Trainers have come in to guide teachers through the new program. Note was made that Grade 5 teachers and Grade 6 teachers are also working together to help "bridge" the move from Grade 5 to Grade 6, with the goal of all incoming sixth graders entering on the same page. It is a time for constant reflection and then readjustment if needed. Mr. Castiglione shared that the resources are in place, and we understand it takes time, conversation, and investment.

### II. SEED update

Ms. McKenna continues to work closely with ACES as we get ready for the implementation of CT's Educator Evaluation and Support System during the 2013-2014 school year. Our Committee was able to look at the CT Common Core Teaching (CCT) Rubric for observation of teacher performance and practice. "The new rubric integrates the Common Core State Standards that align with the instructional shifts required by the Common Core."

### III. Discussion on the following new clubs:

Ms. McKenna and the Curriculum and Instruction Committee discussed the need for a "New Club" form that would provide a more detailed rationale as well as goals and objectives for the proposed club. This would enable us to make a more informed decision for approval of a club. An annual report form to be filled out at the end of the year by clubs was also suggested to keep us informed on the success of the club.

- o Smile Squad – Denied – more information needed
- o Slender Man Club – Denied - the legend of Slender Man is not congruent with the ideals of the North Haven Public Schools
- o Penmanship Club - Approved