

New Bedford School Committee
Curriculum Sub-Committee

Wednesday, December 7, 2011
Meeting Minutes

- 1. Call to Order at 6:30 PM by Dr. Finnerty**

- 2. Roll Call of Committee Members**
Present: Dr. Finnerty (chair), Dr. Fletcher, Ms. Pollock
Staff Attending: Dr. Mary Louise Francis, Jane Daly,
Holly Nilson

- 3. Update on:**
 - a. Graduation Coaches:
Three (3) *MassCore Graduation Facilitator* 12-month positions have been filled and will be on board soon. Student identification through the Early Warning system and using other indicators will be utilized to identify student case loads for these MassCore Graduation Facilitators.

 - b. Curriculum Administrator: We are in the process of filling the Academic Director of English Language Arts position. The Curriculum Administrator to be posted soon.

- 4. *DIBELS Next* Training update**

Holly Nilson demonstrated the new *DIBELS Next* assessment for students in Grades K-2 with one of the teacher netbooks. A discussion ensued regarding the types of data report views available through *DIBELS Next* for district, school, class, and student levels. There was also a discussion regarding accommodations to be used with *DIBELS Next* as needed for ELL students and students with disabilities.

- 5. Student Growth Percentile Clarification**

This item was clarified at the November 28 School Committee Meeting.

- 6. Gateway Cities Agenda Discussion (Outreach to parents and children)**

Through the Title I office, there is parent outreach. Two parent workshops on literacy are scheduled, one at Hayden-McFadden, one at Gomes. One goal of the District Literacy Action Team (DLAT) is to improve

family engagement, and make recommendations for a two-year action plan to identify and address concerns in improving family engagement in literacy. Utilizing local educational cable television programming was discussed. In addition, Dr. Francis discussed the revitalization and the school-connection for the Family Center at Hayden-McFadden. The *Count Me In* initiative may also be able to support family involvement.

7. Robotics Course at New Bedford High School

A proposed curriculum was presented and reviewed.

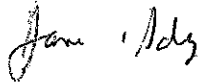
8. Other Business

Required reading of Frederick Douglas' autobiography took place. A similar type of required reading for elementary level students was discussed.

9. Adjourn

Motion made to adjourn by Dr. Fletcher, seconded by Ms. Pollock. All voted to adjourn at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:



Jane L. Daly

Assistant Superintendent for Accountability and School Improvement