

## New Bedford School Committee

Sub-Committee on Policy  
Paul Rodrigues Administration Building  
Rm. 224

Thursday, January 23, 2014  
Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance: Meeting began at 6:30 PM
2. Roll Call of Committee Members-  
Present: Chair, Mr. Amaral, Mr. Bruce Oliveira, and Ms. Marlene Pollock
3. Review of Minutes – Mr. Oliveira made a motion to accept the November 14, 2013 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Amaral, all voted in favor.
4. Proposals  
Update Policy IKF: New Bedford High School Graduation Requirements  
Bernadette Coelho and Ashley Hebert are co-chairs of the NBHS School Redesign Team

Beginning with the Class of 2017, if students are applying to state colleges and universities, and have not met MassCore Requirements, they will not be accepted.

Chart was presented which showed current requirements, with Math to be raised to 4 units. Currently we require 2 Science Lab-Based courses, the proposal requires 3 Lab Sciences. NBHS listed 3 suggested Foreign Languages (of the same language) vs. minimum of 2, for those who want to apply to certain colleges.

PE requirement is similar to what is required now. Currently students do not have to pass PE to graduate, but with proposed requirements, they will need to pass. Health increased because it will be a Semester long Course.

New - In the Arts, a full-year or 1 unit is now required according to MassCore Requirements. Additional core courses include pathway courses, i.e. Business Courses, Technology/Engineering, and other subjects of interest.

Mr. Oliveira asked how we got to the current 26 credit requirement. Contextual Learning Courses used to be a requirement from DESE, but are no longer required or tracked.

We are not reducing requirements, but providing a more rigorous learning track to best help our students be College and Career Ready. More depth in content

knowledge is required by MassCore Requirements. College readiness, without the need for remediation.

As proposed schedule for next year stands, students will have the potential to earn 28 credits, these are minimum requirements for graduation. We expect our students to engage in additional coursework beyond minimum requirements. Redesign Team is also looking at specific course requirements for capstone projects, for example, completing a research paper in an English class.

Dr. Durkin- "In the future, working with the Program of Studies, Instructional Leaders will be leading departments to develop course/departmental requirements. Therefore, we will have standard requirements for course expectations."

Mr. Oliveira recommends to the full School Committee to move this policy for adoption- Seconded by Marlene Pollock, all voted in favor.

5. Discussion on Policy Manual Update- Mr. Oliveira made a motion to recommend Lisa Dunaway as the point person to begin the work with *MASC Policy Service*. Motion seconded by Dr. Pollock, all voted in favor.

We do have funds in our budget for this year to begin the process in Spring, 2014. We may want to invite Jim Hardy to attend a Policy Sub-Committee Meeting in the future. As part of the update, when the policies are completed, they will be put online.

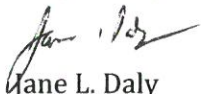
6. Other Business –

Mr. Oliveira discussed the fees for Facilities policy. Patrick and Al are working on drafting a new policy, and that will be brought to the Facilities Sub-Committee.

7. Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Amaral, seconded by Mr. Oliveira. All voted in favor to adjourn at 7:15 PM.

*Next Meeting: March 20, 2014*

Respectfully submitted,



Jane L. Daly  
Assistant Superintendent  
Accountability and School Improvement