

**Orange Board of Education
Curriculum/Instruction/Technology Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2019**

Present: Evelyn Russo, Ken Ziman, Kim Browe, Charles Flynn, Christian Young, Tricia Lasto and Matt Ullring (Absent: Betty Hadlock)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm.

2. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

3. Instrumental Curricular Change

Evelyn Russo shared that the music curriculum is shifting from having students play the recorder to playing the ukulele. She explained that the change has been made because the ukulele meets the criteria for developing musicianship, is a melodic and harmonic element, and is a contemporary instrument that students can connect to.

4. Discussion – Town Networking Equipment

Matt Ullring has been collaborating with the Town of Orange IT Director and has found opportunities for cost sharing, savings, and redundancies (as back up) between the town and the Board of Education as the town upgrades their network. Matt said that he doesn't see any downside to the collaboration. The committee encouraged Matt to continue exploring the opportunity.

5. Update – Grade-Level Planning Sessions

Evelyn Russo shared details about what goes on at grade-level planning sessions. She identified the purpose of these sessions: to give teachers a big picture understanding of the units before they begin their lesson plans. Dr. Russo explained that teachers spend 90 minutes for math and 90 minutes for ELA once a month per grade level. The math specialists and reading consultants also participate along with an outside external facilitator.

6. Curriculum Snapshots

The district is shifting from snapshots to overviews that include possible contexts, essential questions, and content.

7. Professional Learning Update

Teachers participate in Monthly District Grade-Level Planning Sessions, Mapping Design Team Training (in English Language Arts (ELA), Math, Math Context, Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), and College Career & Civic Life (C3 Frameworks) and training in Writing.

8. Revised Scientific Research Based Intervention (SRBI)

Evelyn Russo and Tricia Lasto shared that the district has revised Kindergarten Grade Level Benchmarks and Criteria for Intervention by adding a level of specificity to increase precision of identification criteria.

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.