

***West Islip School District***  
***Education Committee***  
***2018-2019***

---

***Minutes***

---

***March 14, 2019***

***7:15 p.m.***

***District Office ~ Board Conference Room***

Meeting began @ 7:15 p.m.

Members present: Richard Antoniello, Bernadette Burns, Steve Gellar, Kevin O'Connor, Anne Rullan

Curriculum Writing Projects

The committee reviewed the need for curriculum writing to revise AP Literature and Composition, and AP Language and Composition in alignment with The College Board updates to the courses. Also reviewed are developing units of study for English 7 texts *Twelve Angry Men* and *The Outsiders*.

Keyboarding Without Tears

The Technology Committee has been looking for alternatives to our current model of supporting students' keyboarding skills. Reanna Fulton, Director of Technology; Karen Appollo, Director of English Language Arts; and Anne Rullan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction made a site visitation to Maplewood Intermediate School in the South Huntington School District who have implemented the Keyboarding Without Tears this school year. The visit included observations of three classrooms providing the program to students in a variety of ways and then a debriefing afterwards to discuss their rollout and any challenges. The program was presented to the Curriculum Council Committee K-5 for possible adoption in the 2019-2020 school year. The committee is recommending a rollout in January of 2020 to allow for all teachers to be trained. The program is designed for 5 to 10 minutes a day or 30 minutes per week. Student led lessons are self-paced. The program also provides students with content exposure, vocabulary development, and keyboarding skills where students are expected to become proficient in keyboarding prior to entering the middle school.

Substantial Equivalency Review and Determination Process

Education Law §§3204, 3205, and 3210 require the Local School Authority (LSA) to ensure that students of compulsory school age (from six to seventeen years of age) who reside within the boundaries of their school district are receiving an education. For children of this age educated in settings other than public schools, local public school officials must ensure that the education received by students is substantially equivalent to that received in district public schools.

The intent of the substantial equivalency determination process is to ensure that all students receive the education to which they are entitled under law. The determination process is a collaborative effort between the public and nonpublic schools.

Superintendents or their designees will begin to conduct substantial equivalence reviews on behalf of their school boards using the updated process during the 2018-2019 school year. Public school leaders and nonpublic school leaders who will be involved in the review and determination process are expected to attend trainings offered by the Department. Dr. Rullan was recently trained and will begin the process for the review. Part of the process requires site visitations, review of curriculum, materials, and safety protocols, procedures for attendance, behavior, and health. The review will be conducted every five years for all documentation, with an open communications about any changes in leadership, curriculum, school building locations, grade levels served, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.