

School Committee Curriculum Subcommittee
Tuesday, March 16, 2021
4:00 PM-5:30 PM
Remote via Zoom

Curriculum Subcommittee Members Present: Jennifer Monopoli (Chair), Helen Charlupski, Susan Wolf Ditkoff, and Barbara Scotto.

Other School Committee Members Present: Suzanne Federspiel.

Staff Present: Michelle Herman, Meg Maccini, Casey Ngo-Miller, Mindy Paulo, Joshua Paris, Lisa Rodriguez, Brendan Kobus, and Robin Coyne.

1) Review/Approval of Minutes

On a motion of Ms. Ditkoff and seconded by Ms. Monopoli, the Curriculum Subcommittee voted unanimously (by roll call) to approve the February 23, 2021 meeting minutes.

2) Summer School Plans

Senior Director of Programs and Remote Learning Academy Principal Meg Maccini, Director of English Learner Education Mindy Paulo, Brookline High School (BHS) School Math Curriculum Coordinator Joshua Paris, BHS Calculus Project Co-Director Lisa Rodriguez, and BHS Associate Dean of Students Brendan Kobus provided an update on Summer Programs (Attachment A). Ms. Maccini provided some background on summer programs (no Director of Summer Programs; Summer Partners have monthly planning meetings; programs are self- or grant-funded; partners include the Public Schools of Brookline (PSB), Recreation Department, and Steps to Success; PSB has four academic programs; are discussing a General Education Summer Program. Ms. Paulo provided an overview of STAR Academy, which is an English Learner Education (ELE) and METCO Partnership. The program serves approximately 180 K-8 students and is free for participating families. Mr. Paris and Ms. Rodriguez presented an overview of the Calculus Project, which serves 100-120 students of color in Grades 8-12, including all Steps to Success (STS) students participating in rising 8 and 9 STS summer programs. The program is funded through the PSB with some additional funding through STS. Mr. Kobus provided an overview of BHS Summer School, which serves approximately 120 Grade 9-12 students. Students participate for credit recovery and original credit. The program is tuition based with financial assistance, and is provided in partnership with STS, METCO, and The Brookline Center. Ms. Maccini presented an overview of Project Discovery, which is a partnership between English Language Arts (ELA) and the Recreation Department (offers enrichment at separate cost). The program serves approximately 128 K-2 students and is free for participating families. Ms. Maccini reviewed challenges (no Director to develop clear mission/cohesiveness, no additional funding at this point, space limitations, lack of time to develop additional programs, and staffing cost). Ms. Maccini noted the possibility of additional support from Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)/Federal Funding for Acceleration and Recovery Academies.

Subcommittee Questions/Comments:

Are families of students in free programs, e.g., STAR Academy, asked if they would like to make a donation? (*Attempt to cover all costs through existing sources.*)

If STAR Academy and Project Discovery had additional spots, would families be interested? (*In*

previous years have had to turn away students, but not sure that would happen this year; have informally asked families and some have indicated that they would like the children to have a break over the summer.)

Do the projections incorporate the additional \$150,000 in PSB funding for summer programs? *(Not yet, are waiting for clarification from the Office of Administration and Finance; could increase the number of students served if there is additional funding.)*

Members suggested duplicating programs like STAR Academy in additional schools if additional funding is available.

Asked how students are recruited for the Calculus Project. *(Discussed the application project and outreach to students, families, teachers, and other staff.)*

Are there students who can't participate in the Calculus Project because they need to work summer jobs? *(Is an issue; try to be flexible in program hours and work with partners to help with jobs; looking into offering remote options.)*

Consider expanding the Calculus Project to help graduates adjust to college math.

Asked how students are selected for BHS Summer School. *(Usually referrals from teachers, guidance counselors, and deans; financial assistance is offered.)*

Would more students participate in BHS Summer School if there were more openings? *(Plan to continue to provide remote opportunities, which offer flexibility and help more students access classes; enrollment had been going down; could take on more students, but might need an additional staff person; will consider whether the pandemic has increased student need to recover credit and/or reinforce material taught during this past year.)*

Asked whether there is a cost for taking the Health Course. *(Ms. Herman will check on this.)*

Consider ways to address social and emotional needs and provide enrichment opportunities to help students reacclimate. *(Remote Task Force Expert Panels may be able to offer some assistance; Brookline Adult and Community Education (BACE) will be offering in-person enrichment opportunities.)*

Members urged the district to think more holistically about what students might need this summer, and to consider how to accurately gauge student need and then determine what resources and funding are needed. The School Committee needs to better understand the full need in order to advocate for resources during the budget season. Members urged the district to develop programs for students in Grades 3-5 and 6-8. Ms. Herman noted that staff members have been meeting with Curriculum Coordinators on preparing students for the fall. With regard to Summer Programs, the team will look at resources, including teacher availability; student need; family interest; and budgetary implications.

The Subcommittee will revisit this topic once staff has had the opportunity to gather additional information on need and funding.

3) Essential Curriculum Plans

This item was postponed until April.

4) Update on Child Study Teams Work

This item was postponed until April.

5) New Business

The next meeting of the Curriculum Subcommittee will take place on March 23, 2021, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM. The agenda will include reports from Remote Task Force Advisory Panel 1: Educational Excellence and Equity, Panel 2: Support to Address the Whole Child Experience, and Panel 3: Remote Learning Building Capacity. Two meetings will be held in April: April 12, 2021, 4:00 PM-5:00 PM and April 27, 2021, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Summer Programs 2021

Presentation to the Curriculum Subcommittee
4:00pm-4:45pm

Agenda

- Introduction and Who is Here
- Context for Summer Programs
- Overview of Academic Summer Programs
- Challenges and Opportunities
- Questions

Summer Program Directors Here Today

- **Mindy Paulo, Director:** Office of English Language Education (ELE)
 - STAR Academy
- **Joshua Paris, Chair:** Mathematics Department Brookline High School
 - Calculus Project
- **Brendan Kobus, Associate Dean:** 9th grade Brookline High School
 - BHS Summer School
- **Meg Maccini:** Senior Director, Office Teaching and Learning
 - Project Discovery (Kristin Gray, Director)

Context for Summer Programs

- ★ There is no Director of Summer Programs
- ★ OTL and Operations Department partner (Gillis/Maccini) convene a group of Summer Partners during 10 monthly meetings to prepare for summer programs
- ★ Each Program is self or grant funded- No Summer Program budget, per se
- ★ Summer Program partners comprised of PSB*, Recreation Department, Steps to Success
- ★ PSB currently has 4 academic programs (which we will discuss today)
- ★ We will also discuss plans for moving forward with planning a General Ed Summer program through Office of T &L

PSB Summer Partners

- Office of School Health Services
- Office of Admin and Finance/HR
- Operations Department
 - Buildings, Food Services, Transportation
- Office of Teaching and Learning
 - METCO, English Language Education (ELE), English Language Arts, BEEP
 - BHS
- Office of Student Support Services
 - BEEP ESY
 - ESY: Bridge/Transitions/RISE
 - ESY/BHS: Excel Pathways
 - ESY: 6 - 12 LC, LAHB
 - K-5 LC, SELC
 - TLC
- BA&CE
 - Smart Summers K-5, 3-5

STAR Academy

- Location: Lincoln School
- In person
- ELE and METCO Partnership
- July 19-August 20
- 9:00am-1:00pm, M-F
- 180 students, K-8
- Breakfast and lunch provided
- Transportation provided for students in METCO
- 1 Director, 12 teachers, 2 student aides, 2 paraprofessionals, 1 social worker
- Funded through Title III (ELE) and METCO
- FREE for participating families

Project Discovery

- Location: Runkle School
- In person
- Partnership between ELA and Rec (Camp Kennedy)
- July 6-July 30
- 8:30am-12pm, M-F
- 128 students, K-2
- Transportation provided for students in METCO
- Rec offers enrichment at separate cost (Camp Kennedy)
- 1 Director; 1 Assistant Director/Interventionist; 16 Teachers; 1 Program Aide
- Funded through Title I
- FREE for participating families

Calculus Project

- Location: OLS
- In person
- July 6-July 30
- Mon-Fri 9AM-12PM
- ~100-120 students of color including all STS students participating in rising 8 and rising 9 STS summer program
- Grades 8-12
- Director & 9-10 teachers
- Funded through Brookline Public Schools with some additional funding from STS

BHS Summer School

- Location: Old Lincoln School
- Hybrid
- June 28 - July 30
- 8:30am-1:30pm, M-F
- 120 students, 9-12
- 1 Director; 9 Teachers
- Funded through BHS
- Tuition based with financial assistance
- Credit Recovery and original credit
- Partner with STS, Metco and The Brookline Center

Challenges and Potential Opportunities

Challenges

- No Director for Summer Programs to develop clear mission/cohesiveness
- No more funding at this point
- Space limitations
- Not a lot of time to develop additional summer programs
- Staffing=\$ and no additional \$ identified

Potential Opportunities

- DESE/Federal Funding for Acceleration and Recovery Academies

Questions?