

**Curriculum and Instruction Committee**  
**April 21, 2021**

**In attendance:**

Rita Kennedy, Board Of Education

Shannon Stringer, Board of Education

Tracy Baron, Board of Education

Lisa Brady, Superintendent

Doug Berry, Assistant Superintendent

Patrick Mussolini, Middle School Principal

Jen Hickey, MYP Coordinator

Marcia Heffler, MS Language Acquisition Teacher

Stephanie Gonzalez MS Language Acquisition Teacher

The Committee discussed the following items:

**Middle School Program Enhancements for the 21-22 school year**

**The Middle School will continue its ongoing implementation of the IB Middle Years Program (MYP) by introducing 2 program enhancements for the 2021-2022 school year: Grade 6 Language Carousel and Grade 8 Community Project**

- **Grade 6 Language Carousel**

- Currently students entering the Middle School in grade 6 choose a language of study - spanish, french, italian
  - Grade 6 is Introductory
  - Grade 7 is the first half of Level 1
  - Grade 8 is the second half of Level 1 (earn hs credit)
  - (students at Springhurst receive spanish instruction through FLES in grades 2-5)
- IB MYP encourages the use of a language carousel that exposes students to multiple language either during the final year of elementary school or the first year of Middle School
- Under the Language Carousel students in grade 6 would receive instruction in all languages offered (Spanish, Italian, French) and a course in Foundational Global Cultural Awareness
- Prior to starting grade 7 students would make their language choice and begin the language sequence

- Students would finish Grade 8 at the same point - finishing the second half of level 1 to earn a HS Credit
- The language carousel model in grade 6 will further align us with MYP and is supportive of Middle School philosophy of empowering students to make informed choices
- **Community Project**
  - MYP does not require but encourages the establishment of a Community Project in grade 8 for all students
  - The Community project will serve as a capstone project and provide students with an opportunity to collaborate and pursue service learning (This aligns with NYSED long term goals re: civic education)
  - Students can work in teams as large as 3
  - Students are encouraged to reflect on their learning and the outcomes of their work
  - Brings relevance to learning and is both student centered and developmentally appropriate
  - Enables students to engage in practical explorations through a cycle of inquiry, action and reflection
  - Allows students to consider 4 types of service: direct, indirect, advocacy, and research
  - Prior MS experiences in grade 6 (wonder wednesdays) and grade 7 (interdisciplinary real world applications) serve as a supporting structure for student success
  - Students (1) identify a need, (2) develop a plan of action to address need, (3) perform service, (4) reflect
  - Summer planning will bring more specifics but project will likely live in the humanities and support and work time will be provided in scheduled study skills classes
  - Detailed information will be shared with students and parents in the fall
- **6-8 Mathematics**
  - Foundational and AIS Program Exploration
    - The Department is exploring available program options based on student needs, standards alignment, cultural responsiveness, and instructional methodology for both widespread use in grade 6- 8 and in AIS classes
    - For 2021-2022 will continue use of Glencoe Math (course 1, 2,3) as the primary program in grades 6-8, and will continue to use Mathematics Navigator in AIS classes

- Partnering with the Elementary School in exploring Illustrative Math as primary program but is looking at other programs as well
- Throughout the 2021-2022 school year classes will participate in piloting as program options are identified
- Goal is to have a program recommendations in place for 2022-2023 school year